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A  
BRIEF EXPOSITION  
OF THE  
L A W S  
RELATIVE TO  
*WILLS and TESTAMENTS.*

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BY A BARRISTER AT LAW. S.W. Nicoll.

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The use of *Bona notabilior* is not mentioned in this Treatise.

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Rec. June 6, 1876

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## P R E F A C E.

**T**HE following Work is addressed more particularly to two classes of people—those who through obstinacy will not, and those who in emergent cases cannot, apply to Gentlemen of the Profession on making their Wills.—The former it may tend to shew the slipperiness of the ground on which they tread, and to the latter I will hope it may afford some useful assistance. Further than this, I do not despair of this little Work being occasionally a convenient Pocket-Companion to Country Practitioners, who are often called to a distance from home to make the Wills of persons labouring under dangerous complaints, and to whom a more bulky Book might be troublesome.

After the very great number of distinct treatises on the subject of Wills which the public is already in possession of, I perhaps may not escape a charge of folly or of arrogance—I have only this to say in my defence: The larger works on the subject are not likely to come into the hands of those for whom this Treatise is intended, and of the smaller I shall not scruple to say they are for the most part inadequate to any useful purpose whatever.—To dismiss  
them

them in a sentence, they exhibit a mere crude collection of cases, on some very few and very obvious topics. Whether I have done more or better than my predecessors, it is for the public to determine. I may say, without breach of modesty, I have aimed at avoiding their faults—I do not assert that I have obtained my aim.

For the purpose of easy reference, I have throughout placed the subject treated on in large letters at the top of each page, and the divisions of the subject in marginal notes—on this account a short index will, I believe, be all that is necessary—on referring to the subject, and turning the eye along the side of two or three pages, the Reader will be able to discover the contents of the Book.

I have introduced into this Work a Chapter on Powers of Appointing—but as this subject is common to Wills and other conveyances, and is not usually much considered in Works of this sort, I have thrown it into the form of an Appendix.

Of the Precedents added at the end I have a few words to say. I have confined myself almost entirely to dispositions investigated in the Book, and have been solicitous of using the shortest forms, expressed in the plainest language possible. By this means I have hoped to enable  
a Tes-



a Testator to do something for himself beyond what a few precedents can do for him. Possessing one or two forms expressing a certain sort of disposition, and also some few cases and a little argumentative investigation of that sort of disposition, he may perhaps be enabled to accommodate the precedent to his own particular case and views; in this I think the avoiding technical language and technical forms will greatly assist him: to alter or add to a devise contained in familiar language may not be difficult—but what person out of the Profession could new-model a devise contained in technical terms? what it would be safe to take away he would not readily know—still less would he be able to fill up the chasm with any bearable uniformity of language. I need not hint the danger that arises from using technical expressions by those who do not fully know their import.

I have added a Table of Cases referred to or cited, as I never yet read a Law Book without wishing for one where it was not, and finding it useful where it was.

WILL

A Professor of Engineering for many years, I have  
written a few papers on the subject of technical  
education, and also some law cases and a little  
literature. I have also been for some years of the  
position, the very position, be it said to some-  
times the position of his own position in the  
and view, in this I think the average technical  
language and technical terms will greatly assist  
him to start off and to a degree command in  
technical language may not be difficult—but  
what is the case of the technical terms?—  
what a drastic command to technical terms?  
what it would be like to take away the words  
not really know—this is what he would be able to  
fit up the child with any possible advantage  
of language. I need not think the danger that  
there is any technical education by this  
who do not fully know their import.

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cited, as I never yet read a law book without  
looking for one where it was not, and finding  
it where it was.

WILL

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## WILL AND TESTAMENT.

**A** WILL more properly relates to Real property, a Testament to Personal, Co. Lit. 111. a.—According to Swinburn, P. 3, it is a Will when an Executor is appointed, otherwise a Testament. However this may be, the words are used *loosely*, and it is usual in all cases to say, I A. B. do make this my last Will and Testament.

### WILLS.

Nuncupative or unwritten do not extend to real property; they are regulated and restrained by the St. 29. Ch. 2d. c. 8.

Sec. 19. Where the property bequeathed amounts to upwards of 30l. the devise must be proved by the oaths of three persons present at the making of it. It must be proved that the testator, at the making or pronouncing the devise, desired some person present to bear witness that such was his Will, or to that effect.—Such Nuncupative Will must be made in a last sickness, in his own place of residence, or where he has been resident ten days next before making the Will; except where a person is taken sick, being from his own home, and dies before return.—

Sec. 20. After six months passed from the speaking testamentary words, no evidence of them shall be admitted, unless the substance

A

of



of them was put down in writing within six days of their being spoken.—Sect. 21. A Nuncupative Will shall not be proved till fourteen days after the testator's decease, and until notice to the widow or next of kin, that they may contest the same.—Sect. 23. The Nuncupative Wills of soldiers, sailors, and marines, in actual service, are not affected by this Act.

#### WILLS WRITTEN.

St. 29. Ch. 2. c. 3.—Sec. 5. All devises of lands and tenements devisable by force of the statute of wills, or by particular customs, or by this statute, shall be in writing, and signed by the devisor, or some person in his presence, and by his express direction, and shall be attested in his presence by three witnesses. Hence it appears that the testator need not actually sign his Will in presence of the witnesses; if in their presence he acknowledges a signing, it is sufficient, Grayson and Atkinson, 2 Vesey 454. But the three witnesses must actually sign their names in the presence of the testator.

The following execution may or may not be valid.

“ In witness whereof I the above-mentioned John Doe have hereunto set my hand and seal this, &c. &c.

“ JOHN DOE.”

“ Signed,

“ Signed, sealed, &c. by the above-men-  
 “ tioned John Doe, in our presence,

“ RICHARD ROE,  
 “ JOHN DEN,  
 “ RICHARD FEN.”

This is the case of Hands and James, Com. R. 531. Easter 9. G. 2d. in which the defendant made claim under a Will thus executed; it was left to the jury to say whether in fact the witnesses had signed in presence of the testator. The jury found that in fact the witnesses had so done. The witnesses were all dead, and a presumption on which the jury went was, that one of the witnesses was an attorney of good character, so probably would understand what ought to be done. Now if he had known what ought to have been done, he most likely would further have known how to express the doing of what the statute required.

Chancery will grant no relief where witnesses omit to sign in the testator's presence. See *Croft and Pawlet*, 2d Str. 1109.

No relief in  
 Chancery  
 where there  
 is not due  
 execution.

But reference to prior writings, not signed according to the statute, is in many cases good, 4 Bro. 383. per Wilson Justice. A. devised such annuities and rent charges as were contained in certain writings, and it was held good: but it would not have been so if he had referred to words, “ As it ought

Reference  
 to prior  
 writings.

Reference  
to after-  
writings.

to be a Will in writing for all." Cro. J. 145. Molyneux and Molyneux, and in Brady and Cubitt, Douglass 31. a reference was made to a book in which the testator had expressed the purposes to which he intended a part of his estate should be applied, and it was adjudged that the trusts should be according to that book. But reference to an *after-writing* is not good; for which see the case of Habbergham and Vencent, reported 5 T. R. 92. and 4 Bro. 352. 2d Vesey, junior, 204. A. made a Will, and referred as to some uses to a deed which he intended to make, and which was made and signed by two witnesses, and it was decreed that the deed was not valid to establish the uses; to have determined otherwise, would have been to defeat the statute; for a man would merely have to execute a general devise to such uses as he should in writing appoint, and then any careless writing would suffice.

Rule re-  
laxed as to  
debts and  
legacies.

However the strictness of the rule is relaxed in one or two cases; debts contracted after a Will charging lands with debts, shall be discharged out of the lands. Also if the Will is duly executed to pass real estate, and that real estate is made chargeable with legacies, legacies given afterwards in an unattested Codicil shall be charged on the land. Master and Masters, 1 Wm. 423. Brudenell and Boughton, 2 Atk. 274. Reay and Hopper, before Lord Kenyon at Rolls, 10th March, 1785, cited 5 T. R. 94, 95. Jackson and Jackson,



Jackson, before Buller Justice, June 23, 1788—reported in note to 5 Ed. Wm. R. v. 1. p. 423. n. 3.

#### WHO MAY DEVISE REAL PROPERTY.

The distinction betwixt real and personal property, is in general sufficiently well known. All freehold interests in lands, rent charges, &c. are esteemed real property. Real property, what Terms for years in land, goods, money, debts, &c. are considered as personal property.—See the 2d and 24th Ch. of the 2d Volume of Blackstone's Commentaries.

By St. 32. H. 8. Ch. 1. all persons may devise their lands, &c. but

#### WHO MAY NOT.

St. 34. and 5. of H. 8. ch. 5. sec. 14. Restrains, or rather explains the above Act, and says, that no persons within 21 years of age, women married, idiots, or persons of Infants, married women, idiots, &c. nonsane memory, shall devise their lands, &c. With regard to idiots and persons of insane memory, this clause is in full force. (In order to be of sound or disposing mind, more is necessary than that the testator should be able to count twenty, name those that are about him, &c. He should be capable to comprehend all his social relations, of father, husband, brother, &c.—“ By law it is not sufficient that testator, at the time of making What is a sound mind his

Devisees by  
particular  
customs.

his will, be able to give an answer to usual and familiar questions—he ought to have a disposing memory, so that he is able to devise his property, with reason and intelligence; and it is this memory, which the law calls sound and perfect memory, 6 Co. 23. a. Marquis of Winchester's case.) As to infants and femes coverts it is not so, for in some places, by custom, infants and married women may devise, Harg. Co. Lit. 111. b. n. 4.

Evasions of  
the Statute  
by married  
women.

As to married women, the statute may in all cases be evaded, 1st, By conveying the legal estate to trustees prior to marriage, in which case, by writing in nature of a Will, and executed as one, the wife may devise her real property, Southby and Stonehouse. 2. Ves. 612, 2 Bro 5, 34, and even by agreement with the husband prior to marriage, the appointment of a married woman has been held good, without a conveyance of the legal estate to trustees, 6 Bro. P. C. 15 b.

By a trust.

Wright and Cadogan—see 2d T. R. 695.—In case nothing has been done prior to marriage, the husband and wife may join in levying a fine of the wife's estate, to such uses as she shall by will appoint, Com. Dig.

By a fine.

Wife's devise of copyholds.

Fines, B. As to copyholds, the husband and wife may surrender (the wife being first privately examined by the steward, or by two copyholders if the custom permit, Cro. El. 717. Erish and Rives.) the wife's copyholds, to such uses as she shall by Will appoint,

WHO MAY NOT DEVISE REAL PROPERTY.

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point, Littleton's R. 274. 1 Vef. 229. Taylor and Phillips.

Fraud and fear are reasons for setting aside a Will—Hacker and Newborn Style, 427. The wife, by importunity, got her husband, when in sickness, to make his Will—This he did, merely that he might be quiet—It was adjudged to be made under restraint, and so no Will—Swinb. 239. 4 Burn Ecc. L. 53, &c.

Wills void  
for fear and  
fraud.

WHO MAY DEVISE PERSONALTY.

In general all persons of full age and sound mind, except married women.—Even infants may devise personalty, when at years of discretion, (but what shall be esteemed years of discretion is not so clear, 2d Blackf. Com. Males at 14, females at 12; but still their discretion shall be taken into consideration, and if found deficient, the Will shall be overthrown. Perkins, § 503. says, 4 years old—Lord Coke, H. Co. L. 89. b. 18 years old—17 Hearle and Greenbank, 1st Vefey 303, 1 Vern. 255.—15 for males, 2d Vern. 469.—Dub. if before 21, 1st Vern. 326. Hargrave, in n. b. Co. L. 89. b. coincides with Blackstone.) Alien friends—Alien enemies, by the King's special favour, 1 Bl. Com. 372—3.

Infants,  
when.

WHO MAY NOT DEVISE PERSONALTY.

Married women; yet here, as well as in case of real property, a married woman may, in

When mar-  
ried women  
may.



in certain circumstances, dispose of her property by a sort of Will—without the consent of her husband—in case of property reserved to her separate use, and the savings thereon, Fettiplace and Gorges, 3 Bro. 8. Herbert and Herbert, Pre. Ch. 44. 2 Bl. Com. 498. Also without his consent, she may devise what she has as executrix to another—provided her Will is but a conveyance of her trust to another person, and provided that she shall not wrong her husband, by devising what she has as legatee, for that is *not* devised to her in trust, and belongs to her husband—4 Burn. Ecc. Law, 52—3—Swinb. 49, 50. With the husband's consent. If the husband, before marriage, agree that his wife may make a Will, and devise all or any part of her goods, her Will of such goods is valid as an appointment, Anon. 1. Mod. 211. 2 Black. Com. 497. The wife may make a testament with her husband's consent, tho' no power so to do be reserved before marriage; but *this* consent it should seem is revocable, 5 Bac. Abr. 502. Swinb. 48.

Who not,  
for crimes.

Excom-  
municate  
may.

Various descriptions of persons are prohibited disposing of their personalty, on account of criminal conduct.—Traitors and felons from the time of conviction—Felo de se, or person committing suicide—for his goods are forfeited—Outlaws, for their goods are forfeited to the King during the Outlawry, 2d Bl. Com. 499. Whether a person excommunicated may make a testament

ment is a point I have not found actually decided—In Mitford and Herbert, 9 mod. 113. The counsel on both sides *arguendo*, (it suited their argument) mention such persons as incapable of devising personalty—but the court did not notice the position—Swinb. 60. a. “The affirmative hath more patrons in number, and those of greater weight—except the cause of excommunication be usury, or heresy, or other cause for which it is prohibited to make any testament—or unless the person be excommunicate, with the great curse Anathema.”—Dr. Burn, 4. Ecc. L. 57. does little more than cite this passage out of Swinburne, Went. off. ex. 16. Leans to the affirmative.

When we consider how numerous and how trivial are the causes for which a sentence of excommunication may be pronounced, there seems no reason whatever to doubt that a refusal of the Ecc. Courts to substantiate a Will, on account of the testator's being excommunicate, would one way or other be immediately and effectually resisted.

## WHAT MAY BE DEVISED.

The St. 32. H. VIII. S. 2d. says, all persons *having lands* may devise: Therefore, if a man devise lands which he intends to purchase, and afterwards purchases them, they do not pass by his Will, for he had them

Not after-  
purchased  
lands.

B

not

not when he made it—Bunter and Coke, 1 Sal. 238.

Lands  
agreed for  
may.

But it is otherwise if a man has entered into articles for the purchase of lands, and devises them before they are assigned to him, Potter and Potter, 1 Vesey, 437. 2 Vern. 679.

A Great Authority denies this origin of the incapacity to devise after-purchased lands. It is said that a Will is a *conveyance*, and on *this* account after-purchased lands cannot pass. But if this were the origin of the rule in question, would not equity decree a specific performance against the heir? Windham and Chetwind, Burrow, 427, and cited in Blackstone's Argument, Harg. L. Tr. 503.

Escheating  
tenancy.

If a manor in possession is devised, and afterwards a tenancy escheats, it will pass as incident to the manor, 1 Sal. 238. Bunter and Coke. A. is disseised, then devises the land, then enters, it passes by the devise, for his entry reinstates him from the beginning,

Equity of  
redemption

1 Sal. 237. Equity of redemption, i. e. the interest the mortgagor has in lands, after the legal estate has become absolute in the mortgagee, is deviseable, 2 Ch. Ca. 8.

Remain-  
ders.  
Contingen-  
cies.

Anonymous. A remainder after an estate for life may be devised. Contingent and executory interest, both in chattels and real property, are deviseable, 4th Fearn's Contingent Remainder, 537 to 546.

Yet



Yet it is not *bare possibilities* that are devise-<sup>Bare possi-  
bilities not.</sup>able. The son cannot devise the estate which *may* descend from his father; nor the legatee the legacy which possibly may be left to him and his executors,\* 3 T. R. 88. *These* are merely hopes of succession.—C. devised to his son in fee, and if his son died before 21, to R. R. devised this possibility, and the devise was supported, Moor and Hawkins, cited Bl. R. C. P. 33—4. Now R. in this case stands very differently from an heir at law. He has been directly pointed out for a future interest. But when the future interest is not ascertained to any certain person it is not deviseable, as “a remainder to the heirs of A.” who is living. Now A. when alive, can have no heir; and if a person who perchance may be heir to A. devises this possibility; it is not good, for the uncertainty of his answering the description of the devisee, 4th Fearn, 546.

## WHAT NOT.

Copyholds. The St. H. VIII. enabling persons having lands to devise them, does not extend to copyholds. Therefore, if any one wishes to devise his copyholds, he must first surrender them to the use of his Will,

B 2

and

\* Beckley and Newland, 2d Wm. 182. A. and B. married sisters, presumptive heiresses of C. who was a man of fluctuating intentions. A. and B. agreed to divide all C. should leave them, i. e. each to take half of all left, however testator bequeathed it.—Ld. Chancellor Macclesfield established the agreement, and A. who had a very small bequest, received equally with B. who had a large one.

Surrender  
supplied by  
equity,  
where.

and his Will acts as an appointment, Harg. Co. L. 111. b. n. 1. In some cases this surrender will be supplied by a court of equity, as for younger children where the eldest is provided for, 3 Bro. 288. Pike and White. For creditors, 3 Sal. 84. Pope and Garland. For a wife, who had a life-interest devised, with remainder to testator's nephews, (tho' as to the nephews the devise was held void for want of a surrender) Marston and Gowan, 3 Bro. 170. In Wardel and Wardel, 3 Bro. 116. Testator, taking notice that he had *not* surrendered his copyholds, directed that his son (to whom they would descend as heir at law) should pass sufficient surrenders when he came of age, to such and such persons, otherwise an estate tail devised him should go over as if he were dead without issue. The heir was decreed to convey according to his father's intentions.

No surren-  
der of trusts  
in copy-  
hold ne-  
cessary.

Where the legal estate of the copyhold is not in the devisor, no surrender is necessary. This happens when the copyhold is vested in trustees for the use of the devisor, or when it is mortgaged so that the mortgagees hold the legal estate, Macnamara and Jones, 1 Bro. 481. Tho' where the legal estate is in the devisor, a surrender will, in particular circumstances, be supplied by Chancery, yet it is most prudent not trust to this, 1st. for the uncertainty whether, in the particular circumstances of the Will, this relief will be afforded; 2d. because the investigation

Dangerous  
not to sur-  
render.

tion of the circumstances will give rise to tedious and expensive litigation.

Interests held in joint tenancy, for the survivor takes the whole; and this principle <sup>Joint tenancy.</sup> holds equally in real and personal property, Co. L. 185. b. Swinb. 92.—The requisites to make a joint tenancy are these: One and the same interest arising from one and the same conveyance, commencing at one and the same time, and held by one and the same undivided possession, 2d Black. Comm. 180. So if A. grants or devises to B. and C. they are joint tenants, Litt. Sec. 277. If a horse is given to several, they are joint tenants: So it is if a bond is made to two or more, Littleton, Sec. 282—283. Executors are joint tenants, and the whole residue goes to the survivor, if means have not been taken to sever the jointure, Balwyn and Johnson, 3 Bro. 455. Joint tenancy was formerly favoured by the courts; it is not so now, 1 Vesey, 166.—This evil of joint tenancy may be remedied, and the property be made deviseable, by severing the jointure, the proper methods of doing which do not come within the object of this work. But it is to be observed, that if a joint interest in lands is devised, and then the jointure is severed, the Will is void as to this devise, 3 Burr. 1488, Swift and Roberts, Amb. 617. S. C.—It is to be observed, that undivided possession is not necessarily accompanied by joint tenancy; for both with regard to real and personal property, apt words will create a tenancy



nancy in common, where there is no survivorship; and for the encouragement of husbandry and trade, joint stocks relative to them shall be considered as held in common, Co. L. 182. a. 2 Bl. Com. 399.

Wife's  
Choses in  
action.

The husband cannot devise the chattels, real or *choses*, in action of his wife; for if the wife survive, she (and not the husband's executor) shall have them.

Choses in  
action,  
what.

A chose in action is property not in possession, but which may be recovered by a suit at law: So a bond is a chose in action: The money due on it is not in possession of *obligee*, or him to whom the bond is made, but by an action he may reduce it into possession. If a man covenants with me and fails, the damages arising from his failure are justly my due; but till I have recovered them, they are choses in action, 2 Bl. Com. 397. But if the husband reduce the choses in action into possession, or dispose of a chattel real, (i. e. a lease) then he has obtained complete ownership, 2 Bl. Com. 434—5. The husband may by certain methods become a *purchaser* of his wife's choses in action, without reducing them into possession. If before marriage he make a settlement on his wife, in consideration of what she is or may be entitled to, this is a purchase of her choses in action, &c. Garforth and Bradley, 2 Vesey, 677. If the settlement is in consideration of her present fortune, it is no purchase of her future choses in action by the husband, *ib.* Where

But may  
when re-  
duced into  
possession.

Purchased  
by the hus-  
band.

a settlement is made equivalent to the wife's fortune, tho' there be no specific agreement or mention of her choses in action, yet the husband shall be deemed a purchaser of them, Eq. Ca. Abr. 69. 2 Vern. 501.—See Butler's note, 14th Co. L. 351. a.

Emblements are deviseable, 8 Vin. Abr. <sup>Emble-ments de-  
viseable.</sup> devise, I. 5. Emblements are such produce of land as requires annual care and renewal, as hemp, flax, corn; and every one who hath an uncertain interest in lands, shall have the emblements, provided he do not determine his interest by his own default, Co. L. 55. b. The executor of tenant for life, or lessee <sup>Who shall  
have them.</sup> for years of tenant for life, shall have the emblements; i. e. if tenant for life has sown the lands and dies, or his lessee has sown the lands, the executor in one case, and the lessee in the other, shall have the crop, Co. L. 55. b. 1 Rol. 727. L. 11. 15. But he who has a fixed period (as a lease for 10 years) shall not <sup>Who not.</sup> have the emblements, for it was his own folly to sow, when by the fixed determination of his interest he could not expect to reap, Litt. S. 68. If tenant for her widowhood marry, she shall not have the emblements, for she hath voluntarily determined her interest, Co. L. 55. b. 5 Co. 116. Cro. El. 460. nor lessee if he surrender, 1 Rol. 726. L. 40. From the above definition it is clear that hay, trees, &c. are not emblements, 1 Rol. Ab. 728. Pl. 23, 24, 25.

The.

## DESCRIPTION OF TESTATOR.

The testator must take care sufficiently to describe himself, that it may at any future period be certainly known whose Will it is. In case of women, it is proper to say, wife, widow, or spinster, present and late name, &c. And all persons should add their trade or profession, place of residence, and any other particular which may distinguish them from others bearing the same name. Asserting soundness of mind, bequeathing the soul to Almighty God, &c. are needless forms.

## DESCRIPTION OF DEVISEES.

Great care must be taken accurately, to point out the persons meant to be benefited. It is not very unusual for persons in their Wills to indulge themselves in some name of fondness or jocularly, which they have been in the custom of using.—This is by no means adviseable, as it gives rise to litigation, if the habits of the testator are not known to the executor—and it may often happen, that evidence of such modes of mis-calling persons is not attainable.

Mistakes in names.

Mistakes in christian, or even surnames are not fatal, when there is sufficient evidence who was really meant to be benefited, Beaumont and Fell, 2d Wm. 140. Dowset and Sweet, Ambl. 175. Bradwin and Harper, Ambl. 374. If a man devise to A. eldest son of B. and C. is really the eldest son, C. shall take for the description, "eldest son is most certain," 3 Leo. 18.—A. devise to the son and



and daughter of A.—A. has four sons and a daughter, none of the sons shall take any thing, for it does not appear which of them is meant. The whole shall go to the daughter—for it is a joint devise, and whenever one joint tenant cannot take, his share goes to the other or others, Dowset and Sweet, Ambl. 175. If a devise is, “to all his children,” only those shall take who were born at the time of making the Will. Northey and Burbage, Pr. Ch. 471. In Ellison and Aires, 1st Vesey, 111. The devise was to Elizabeth Paxton, but if she died before 21 or marriage, “to the younger children of Francis Ellison;” and the Chancellor decreed such of Francis Ellison’s younger children to take, as were in being at Elizabeth Paxton’s death, under age.—In this case, neither the time of the Will’s being made, or the testator’s death, was considered as the determining period—and Lord Chancellor said, no certain rule can be laid down in cases of this kind, (P. 114). In Attorney General and Crispin, 1 Bro. 386, Testator devised 50l. a piece to the children of A. after the death of certain annuitants, and a child born after the testator’s death was admitted to take. A devise to all and every the children of Mary Pulsford, lets in a child, born after testator’s death, Pulsford and Hunter, 3 Bro. 416. These cases may suffice to shew the necessity of being explicit, as to the designation of the children who are to take.—The addition, “such as are now alive,” “such as shall be alive at my death,” “such children as A.

Children,  
present or  
future.

C

has,

has, or may have at any future time," are in the power of any testator to add—and by such means he may very easily avoid ambiguities, tending in many cases to defeat his intentions.

Devisees  
"amongst  
relations,"  
where con-  
fined by the  
statute of  
distribution

There is a mode of devising, not very unusual but very perplexing—it is under various expressions, "amongst relations."—Where this expression, or an equivalent one is used, simply, without addition, it is construed by the courts to mean next akin, i. e. such persons as would take, if no Will were made, but excluding the wife, 1 Bro. 32, 33. Green and Howard. In a recent case, the devise was "to be equally divided amongst his next akin, share and share alike," and Justice Buller, sitting for Lord Chancellor, determined, that brothers and sisters living at the death of testator, and nephews and nieces, representatives of those deceased, should all take equal shares. On a rehearing, Lord Chancellor was inclined to exclude the representatives of deceased brothers—but the matter was compromised, Phillips and Garth, 3 Bro. 64. In a still later case, the devise was, "the residue to be divided amongst all my relations, share and share alike;" and Lord Loughborough decreed it a mere intestacy, 4 Bro. 207. Masters and Hooper.

A devise was, "amongst such of my nearest relations, of the family of Edge, as my executor shall think greatest objects of charity." The Chancellor would not let the bequest

bequest extend beyond the relations, who could take under the statute of distributions, i. e. living brothers and sisters, and children of brothers and sisters, deceased, Edge and Salisbury, Ambl. 70. So Wedmore and Woodroffe, Ambl. 636. A devise, "amongst the most necessitous of my relations," was held not to benefit any beyond the degrees marked out by the statute. But in Benner <sup>Where not.</sup> and Honeywood, Ambl. 708. A devise of 20,000l. to executors, to divide amongst such relations, not worth 2000l. as should apply in two years, and in such proportions as the executors should think fit, was allowed to extend to more distant relations than those capable of being benefited by a distribution under the statute. From these and other cases, it appears that the Court of Chancery is unwilling, except particular circumstance strongly require it, to extend a devise beyond those relations who would take a distributory share under the statute, in case of intestacy. If the statute is not to be the boundary, what is? There is no other rule founded on any legal analogy, which should exclude even 20th cousins. Were there another rule laid down, the more distant relations would be authenticated, by more inquiry and litigation, and are less the objects of concern to the testator.—In most of the cases, all relations would take alike, i. e. very distant ones would be equally benefited with those nearest and dearest to testator.



How to extend the rule.

But we must remember under precise directions, definitely pointing out the wishes of the testator, and the means of substantiating these wishes, (as in *Bennet and Honeywood*, *supra*) the rule of Chancery is relaxed; so it is where an object is certainly pointed out. As where Joice left money to be divided amongst her relations, *Greenwoods, Everitts, and Downs*. The *Everitts* were not within the statutable degree, yet were permitted to take—the case is (*Greenwood and Greenwood*) cited, 1 Bro. 32. in a note. It is not said what *Everitts* were to take, most probably only those in the nearest degree, as first cousins, to the exclusion of second cousins. The result of the whole is, that in bequests of this kind, the testator is not to content himself with loose and general expressions, but it behoves him circumstantially to describe the persons he means to benefit.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THING DEVISED REAL.

Such description should be given as may identify the property devised, the county, parish, manor, name of occupier, of the person from whom the land descended or was purchased, name of the land itself, if it has any particular one, whether freehold or copyhold; some or all of these circumstances should be enumerated, as the case may require.

Attention

Attention is paid in construing devises to general introductory words, as where the testator says, "as touching all such temporal estate of lands, goods, and chattels as God hath endowed me with, I give, devise, and bequeath thereof as follows," 5 T. R. 13, Goodwright and Stocker.—Lord Kenyon allowed these words would have some effect in construing the subsequent devises; yet they were not alone sufficient to give a fee: So the prefatory words, "all his freehold and leasehold estates he devised," carried a fee, Doe and Burrfall, 6 T. R. 34.

There is a word used in devises, which makes considerable confusion—it is "estate." Meaning of the term "estate." The legal meaning of this word is not a local description *of*, but the interest *in* lands. My estate at or in Blackacre Close, does not mean Blackacre Close itself, but my interest in it. If I devise my estate in Blackacre Close, I devise my interest, all I claim there—and if I have a fee, a fee passes. But if I devise Blackacre Close, I say nothing as to the quantity of interest I devise, so by construction of law, tho' I have a fee, the devisee only takes for life. But if it appears in a Will, that "estate" is used, merely as a description of the thing devised, it shall not then be construed in its technical sense.

Two cases seem sufficient to explain this matter, Holdfast and Morton, 1 T. R. 411. Where it means "interest." A man devised his estate at B. to R. and R. took a fee. A. devised one third of all his estate

Where local description.

estate to his wife, and two-thirds of all his estate to his son and his heirs, and it was held that the wife took only for life. As in his devise to his son he used words of perpetuity tacked to the word estate, and in his devise to his wife he did not, it was supposed he used the word estate not as referring to his interest in the property, but as a word of local description, *Chester and Painter, 2d Wms. 335.*

Word land.

The word land is of very extensive import, and will pass houses, woods, &c. Yet if it is apparently the testator's design, its import shall be abridged. As if A. has a house and land at B. and a house and land at C. and he devise his *house and land* at B. and his *land* at C.—his house at C. shall not pass, because as he gave a particular description in the first part of the devise, it is to be presumed he did not intend to use the word land in a comprehensive signification, *Ewer and Hayden, Cro. El. 476.*

Appurtenants.

By the word "appurtenants," things usually occupied as part of the premises will pass—even land occupied with a house, and highly convenient for the use of it, 2 Bl. R. 1148.—and the word house alone will pass things occupied with it as proper and convenient, 2 T. R. 489. *Doe and Collins.* So a garden will pass by the word house, Co. L. 5. b. "I give all to my mother" held not to pass lands, 1 Lev. 130. *Bowman and Milbanke.* "I give them all I am worth"



worth" held to pass lands, Huxtep and Brooman, 1 Bro. 437. All these doubts may with the greatest ease be avoided—To A. and his heirs certainly gives a fee—to A. for life as certainly restrains the gift.

## PUBLICATION AND ATTESTATION.

By the Statute 29, Ch. 2d. S. 5, all devises of lands, tenements, and hereditaments, shall be in writing, signed by the testator, or some one for him, in his presence and by his express direction, and shall be attested or subscribed by three witnesses at least, *in the presence of the testator.*

If a term is vested in trustees to attend the inheritance\*, it cannot pass by a devise, unless the Will is attested in the manner required by the statute as to real estate, H. Co. L. 111 b. n. 3. 2d Wms. 236. 1st Str. 619. Whitchurch and Whitchurch. 9 mod. 127. 2 Atk. 72. Villiers and Villiers. The testator ought, in presence of the three witnesses, to take the Will, and say he publishes it for his last Will. But this is not absolutely necessary; for if it is written in the Will, "published as last Will," though the testator did not tell the witnesses it was his Will, this may suffice, Peate and Ongley, Com. R. 197. Com. Dig. Dev. E. 2. per Lord Mansfield in Bond and Seawell,

\* A term to attend the inheritance differs from other terms for years, inasmuch as it goes to the heir as heir, and not to the executor as personal property, i. e. as a chattel real.

Seawell, 3 Burr. 1775. "It is not necessary that the testator should declare the instrument executed to be his Will," "or that the witnesses should attest every page or sheet, or that each page should be separately shewn them," *ib.* Now if it is not necessary for the testator in words to declare it his Will, it should seem that any internal circumstance contained in the instrument, shewing it to be a Will, were sufficient. It is prudent, but not necessary, that the witnesses should all at one time, consequently in each other's presence, subscribe their names. But if the testator at three several times, before three different persons, signs his name, or acknowledges a signing, (Peate and Ongly, Com. R. 197. Grayson and Atkinson, 2d Ves. 457. Stonehouse and Everlyn, 3 Wms. 254.) it is sufficient, 3d Burr. 1775.

Deaf,  
dumb,  
blind, illi-  
terate.

In the case of a blind man, or one deaf and dumb, yet sufficiently sensible to make a Will, or of one who cannot read, especial care must be taken to make the testator perfectly acquainted with the contents of the Will about to be executed, and also equal care must be taken to preserve sufficient evidence of his being acquainted with the contents, otherwise it cannot be determined to be *his Will*, Sec. 4. Burn Ecc. Law, 55. If a man is blind, let the Will be read over to him distinctly in the presence of all the attesting witnesses, and let them attest, under their hands, that this was done. The same as to a man who cannot read. In case the testator is deaf and dumb,

dumb, let the witnesses be assured he knows the contents of what he is signing. But suppose he is deaf, dumb, and blind? Even in this case I conceive a Will may be made, if the testator and his friends have any certain mode of communicating their ideas, as by the touch of the finger on one or other part representing this or that word or letter; but this, as being a case of extreme nicety, will require peculiar caution.

The attesting witnesses ought to be disinterested persons, i. e. persons not taking under the Will. But to remedy inconveniences, as it was often in urgent cases necessary to make creditors or legatees witnesses, the St. 25 G. 2d. c. vi. enacts, S. 1. that all devises to witnesses shall be void, except a mere charging estates with debts; S. 2d. that such devisees whose legacies are hereby made void, and creditors attesting shall be received as witnesses; S. xi. that it is in the breast of the court and jury to determine what credit is to be allowed to these witnesses.

Witnesses  
to be dis-  
interested.

#### WHAT PASSES THEREBY.

We have already observed, under title "What may be devised," that after-purchased lands will not pass. Also many variations of interest in the lands possessed by testator prevents their passing by the Will made before the variation of interest; but for this head see title, "Revocation."—After-purchased copyholds will not pass, Spring and

Where af-  
ter-pur-  
chased co-  
pyholds  
may pass.

D

Biles—



Biles—Harris and Culler, cited 1 T. R. 438. in Swift and Gregson. Where testator devised all the lands he should die possessed of, and then purchased copyholds, and afterwards surrendered them to the uses declared by his Will, they shall pass by the Will, Cowp. 130. But after-purchased leases will pass, Doubted, 1 Sal. 238. adjudged, 1 Wms. 575. Wind and Jekil.

#### REPUBLICATION.

What will  
republish a  
Will.

By a Republication the Will becomes a new one from that time; therefore lands acquired since the making of the Will will pass by it when republished, provided there are words extensive enough in signification to comprehend these lands. As H. devised all the lands he should die possessed of; after making this Will he purchased other lands, and it was determined they should not pass, but by the court; if, after purchasing these lands, he had republished his Will, these lands then would have passed by it, 1 Sal. 237. Bunter and Cook. In some early cases, after the statute of frauds, it was determined that any slight expression would republish a Will; as where testator said, "My Will is in the hands of J. S."—this was held a republication, 2 Sho. 48. But it has been long settled, that the forms to be observed on making the original Will are necessary on a republication: Such strictness was soon insisted on, that it was held necessary for the identical paper containing the devise to be re-executed

executed in presence of three witnesses, Lytton and Falkland, cited Com. R. 383, Barnes and Crow, 4 Bro. 8. This rule was afterwards relaxed, and a Codicil, attested to pass real property, will in most cases serve as a republication of the Will itself. If the Codicil confirms the Will, or is desired to be taken as part of it, it republishes the Will, 4 Bro. 11, where Justice Wilson observed, that by desiring the Codicil to be taken as part of his Will, he incorporated the two instruments and made them one. In Goodright and Glazier, 4 Burr. 2512, a Will was made; some years afterwards another was made, but the first was not cancelled; then testator cancelled the second, and the first was adjudged re-established. See Bartonshau and Gilbert, Cowper, 49. Goodright and Glazier seems acknowledged by Buller Justice, in Brady and Cubitt, Doug. 40.

When a Codicil republishes a Will.

ATTESTATION IN CASE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.

As to personal property and copyhold interests less ceremony is requisite as to attestation. It is to be recommended to the testator to sign his Will of such property in presence of one or two respectable witnesses, as by this means it will be easily authenticated—but less form may suffice. If the testator writes his Will in his own hand-writing, without even signing it, this may do, 2d Bl. Com. 501. Godolph. P. 1. ch. 21. sec. 2d. If he gives direction to his attorney to put

down his intentions in writing, and the attorney does so, and reads what he had written to the testator, who approves it, but does not sign the paper, this may suffice to make a valid Will, *Lemberry and Hede, Com. R. 451, Carey and Askew, 2d Bro. 58, Worleck and Pollet, cited Com. R. 452.*

#### CODICIL.

A Codicil is a further exposition of the testator's designs, and is sometimes written on the same sheet as the original Will, sometimes on a separate paper, which is then usually fastened or annexed to the original. To do this is wise, as it will prevent mistakes. A Codicil contradicting the Will might by chance not be found till the original Will was acted on. That annexing the Codicil should have any other effect than preserving it, seems very questionable, *1 Vesey, 442. Potter and Potter. — Whether stitched to the Will or not, there is a mental annexation, 4 Bro. 10. per Eyre.*

A Codicil may revoke or alter any part of the Will and add new dispositions, and the testator may make as many Codicils as he pleases, *Willet and Sandford, 1 Ves. 187.* But if any material alterations are necessary, it is generally expedient to make a new Will. A Codicil passing real property must be executed as the Will itself. Under the title "Republication," something is said of a Codicil as republishing a Will.

If



If a devise is to A. and his assigns, he shall only take for life, 2d Bl. Com. 108. But if words of perpetuity are used, as to A. for ever, he takes a fee. As to the effect of the word "estate," see anti title, "Description of thing devised real." The usual mode of devising a life-estate is, "To A. for and during the term of his natural life."

There are some very nice points relative to devises of life-interests followed by remainders to the heirs or heirs of the body of devisee for life. The after-interest in many cases consolidates with the first, and gives the father or mother, or other first taker, a fee or a fee tail.—When by one instrument or conveyance lands are given to a man for life, with remainder to his heirs, or his heirs of his body, he takes in fee or fee tail, so may bar his heirs or issue. But for such interests to consolidate in the first taker, they must be both legal or both trust interests\*, 4th Ed. Fearne, 37. Shapland and Smith, 1 Bro.

Life interests, with remainders to heirs, or heirs of the body.

Where they vest the whole interest in the first taker.

Where not.

\* If I devise to A. and his heirs during the life of B. to the use of himself and his heirs in trust for B.—here the legal estate is in A. the profits B. is to have.—If the devise were to go on—"and from and after the death of B. I devise the aforesaid premises to the heirs of the body of B."—B's issue are here pointed out to take not only the profits but the legal interest itself—and according to the rule above, B. could not bar his issue.—If the devise had been "to A. and his heirs, to the use of A. and his heirs, in trust for B. for his natural life, and from and after his decease in trust for the heirs of the body of B."—here both B. and his issue taking trust estates, the interests according to the rule consolidate, and B. may bar his issue.

1 Bro. 75. Fearn, 95, 96. 165. 6. Doe and Fonnereau, Doug. 490. Silvester and Wilson, 2d T. R. 444. To enter into the principles of this doctrine would suit neither the length or the nature of this work, and perhaps it will not be difficult to enable the testator to avoid its effects. When the prudence or character of the first devisee is suspected, of course the testator will wish to secure the property to his children, so as entirely to prevent his control and alienation of their interests.—The testator may wish to benefit,

1st. The heirs male of the body of devisee for life, excluding all females.

2d. The eldest son of devisee for life, and his issue, male or female.

3d. If there are only daughters, he may wish to benefit them equally, and the heirs of the body of each.

4th. To prefer one daughter and her issue to the others.

5th. To give to one daughter and her issue male.

6th. To give amongst some or all the children and their issue, male or female.

7th. To give a fee to some or all of the children.

1st. I

1st. I give the premises to A. for and during the term of his natural life; and from and immediately after the determination of that estate, by forfeiture or otherwise, I give and devise the same to Arthur Jenkins and George Young, and their heirs in trust only, to support the contingent remainders hereafter devised from being defeated, barred, or destroyed.—And immediately from and after the decease of the said A. I give and devise the premises aforesaid to his first and other sons severally and successively, as they shall be in seniority of age and priority of birth, and to the heirs male of the bodies of such first and other sons lawfully begotten; the elder son and his heirs male of his body lawfully begotten always to be preferred before the younger and his heirs male.

2d. The same as the first; only when speaking of the heirs of the bodies of the sons, leave out “male,” so that females also may take.

I have given this formula here as a hint which may suffice for this place; the others are drawn out in the precedents annexed.

The different incidents of estates tail and estates for life are these: Tenant for life cannot convert his interest into a fee simple—his wife has no dower—nor has the husband of tenant for life his curtesy.—Without a power specifically granted, tenant for life cannot cut timber, pull down houses, make a join-

Incidents  
of estates  
tail and life  
estates.



a jointure, &c.—Tenant in tail may, by fine or recovery, convert his interest into a fee simple—and without doing that, the wife has dower and the husband curtesy—he may cut down timber, and commit every species of waste, 2 Bl. Com. 115. C. L. 53. a. Estates tail are general—as to A. and the heirs of his body lawfully to be begotten—To A. and the heirs male of his body—To A. and the heirs female of his body.—Special—as to A. and the heirs—or heirs male—or heirs female of his body lawfully to be begotten on the body of Ann his now wife, 2 Bl. Com. 113, 114, 213, 214.

Devise to a person and his issue, where there is issue living.

Heirs of the body is the proper term for creating an estate tail; others may be substituted in a devise, but in such substitution there is danger; as if there is a devise to A. and his issue—if he has no issue at the time, he shall take an estate tail; but if he *has* issue, he shall only take a joint life estate with them.—The issue in being may be supposed to be an object in the contemplation of the testator; then it is as if he devised to “A. and B.” where, not using terms implying more than a life estate, no more shall pass, 6 Co. 17. b. Wilde’s case per Hale. 1 Vent. 229. See 4 T. R. 294. Doe and Collis.

The intention of the testator (provided he does not exclude consideration of his intention by using words of fixed technical construction) being the first object to be attended to in examining a Will, what the Judges in  
Wilde’s

Wilde's case had to consider was, what estate did the testator *mean* to give—Popham and Gawdy (Moore 397) considered the devise as giving an estate tail to the first takers—all the line of their issue to succeed by inheritance—Clench and Fenner thought it was meant that the first devisees should have a life estate—the children born at the time of the devise to have also a mere life estate in remainder.—No technical construction intervened.—If it could be drawn from the whole of a Will, that children born at the time of the devise, were not individually pointed out as objects to be benefited, but were to take as component parts of a whole line of descendants meant to succeed the first taker, their being born then would be a matter of little or no moment: But in these cases the difficulty is, in what way *does* the testator consider the children alive—whether as existing individuals meant a present estate in possession, or does he comprise them in a class, i. e. the general issue of the devisee, whom he means to take in succession, by descent, according to the rules of law.—In Oates and Jackson, Str. 1172, the devise was to A. and her children, begotten and to be begotten, and their heirs for ever.—A. had a child—afterwards she had others.—It was adjudged she took a joint estate in fee with all her issue.—As a question of intention, and it was no more, there appears to me some difficulty in the case:—She perhaps was meant to take the whole for life, with a remainder in fee amongst all her children.—What was in-

E

tended

*tended* was doubtful.—However it was to be decided some way.—Two words would have cleared the matter up—To A. “for life,” and to her children, &c. had it been “to A. and her children equally, and their heirs,” no doubt could have been entertained. It is said by Hale, in King and Melling, p. 231, speaking of Wilde’s case, that the first takers were to be tenants for life, because the remainder was “to their children,” and they had children living at the time of the devise; but, says Lord Hale, it was not after their decease, “to their children *of their bodies*, for then there would be an eye of an estate tail”—“of their bodies,” is a term applicable to all their children, and so would have extended the construction of the Will.

What  
words  
make a fee.

The proper words to make a fee are, to A. and his heirs; and this interest may be transferred by will, bargain, and sale, lease and release, feoffment, &c. entirely at the option of the devisee: In fact, he is complete owner, and has entire power over the estate. Other words will give a fee, as to “A. for ever.” So where an estate is devised with a charge added, absolute, and not attaching on the rents and profits, as a devise to A. and that he shall give his executors 20l. the fee will pass, for it might happen that the devisee died before he could repay himself; but if the devise is to “A. he to pay 20l. out of the rents and profits,” here he cannot lose, and shall only take for life, Harg. Co. L. 9. b. n. 2. Goodright and Stocker. 5 T. R.



13, 14. Baddeley and Leppingwell, 3 Burr.  
 15. 33. Frogmorton and Holyday, 3 Burr.  
 16, 18. But to rely on circumstances of  
 this sort is introductory of much uncertainty,  
 even amongst professional men. Where the  
 word estate carries a fee—see ante under  
 “ Thing devised real.”

PRESENT—IN REMAINDER—EXECUTORY  
 DEVISES.

We have hitherto spoken chiefly of devises to take effect in present possession. It may not be amiss here to give a slight outline of the nature and allowed extent of future devised interests. A fee or perpetuity of interest may be cut out into various parts.—If a life-interest is taken from the fee, the perpetuity after that life-interest remains unaffected, and out of it other interests may be taken, as an estate tail: This estate is called a *remainder*, as being taken *from the interest which remains after the life-estate*.

There is still something remaining after this estate tail, which may be granted out in other interests: So if from 100l. we take 10, 90 is the remainder—20 extracted from that sum, may be compared with the estate tail; and as these two sums, with the remaining 70, make up the original 100, so the life estate, the estate tail, and the remainder after the estate tail, make up the original fee,  
 2 Bl. Com. 164. 5.

Inalienable  
estates dis-  
couraged.

In order to prevent estates from being inalienable for too long a period, which would be an evil in a commercial country, future interests, not barrable by fine or recovery, must vest in possession within lives in being, and one and twenty years and a few months afterwards, 3d Fearn, C. R. 321. To give effect to estates in remainder, there must always be a \* *particular existing estate*, which in law is said to support it: So if between the ending of one interest and the commencement of another, there is any intervening time, the second interest shall totally fail; for the estate descending on the heir at law, as undisposed of for that interval, shall not support the remainder, 2 Bl. C. 171. If I devise to A. for life, remainder to B. on the death of A. and M. and A. dies in M.'s life-time, B. cannot take the estate at A.'s death, for he is to take it when A. and M. are dead. Now there is no estate devised to take place between the death of A. and that of M.—so here the devise to B. entirely fails, Porex. 57. Weale and Lower. So if a devise is to A. for life, and after his decease to his first

\* Particular—"Particula"—a small part of the inheritance.—If a devise is to A. for life, remainder to B. on M.'s death, and A. dies in M.'s life—*till M. dies*, B. by the terms on which his interest was given, can take nothing—what then is to become of the estate whilst M. lives? As not disposed of it must go to the testator's heir at law—the heir at law's interest during M.'s life is no part of the *devise*—in the chain of interests then there is a break, and the law will not allow this break, nor consider the estate of the heir at law, *taking as such*, to be sufficient to support remainders.

first son in tail, and A. before he has a son, surrenders his life estate to him who has the reversion in fee, the son's interest is defeated; for on the determination of his father's interest he could not take, and not taking then, he shall not take at all, 2 Bl. Com. 171.

Hence arises the difference between vested and contingent remainders. Where the subsequent devisee is capable to take, should the prior interest end, his interest is called *vested*. When he is not capable to take, should the prior interest end, he is then said to have a contingent remainder. "The present capacity of taking effect in possession, if the possession were to become vacant, universally distinguishes a vested from a contingent remainder,"\* 4th Ed. Fearne, 329. Now in the two cases cited above, if M. were to die in A.'s life, *then* whenever A. dies, B. can take, and M.'s death converts his contingent into a vested remainder; and when a son is born to A. on the father's ending his interest the son is ready to enter. In old family settlements the evils arising from contingent remainders were perpetual—If the father devised to his eldest son

Remain-  
ders vested.  
Contingent

\* It should seem this definition is not universally true.—If there are remainders after a contingent fee which may or may not ever take effect, these remainders are all deemed contingent, as in *Loddington and Kime*, 1 Sal. 224. *Doe and Burnfall*, 6 T. R. 30.—In the latter case a devise was to A. for life, remainder to her children in fee, remainder to B. who was living.—A. never had any children, and suffered a recovery—this was held to bar B. and all subsequent remainders. Now B. had certainly a present capacity of taking.



son for life, remainder to his first and other sons in tail, remainder to the eldest son in fee—the father, before the birth of a son, had the estate completely in his own power. The remedy at last found out was to interpose trustees to preserve contingent remainders—*Then* if the father chose to end his life-interest, the trustees entered and supported the future son's interests, 2d Bl. Com. 172.—See the first formula ante, under title “Interest devised in realty.”—Again, in the above devise to B. if it had run thus—“To A. for life, and from and after the determination of his estate to trustees for and during the lives of A. and M. and after the deaths of A. and M. to B.”—here the trustees will support B.'s future interest.

Where no  
remainder.

From the definition of a remainder given above, it is clear when once a *fee* \* is limited there can be no *remainder*, as if I give the hundred pounds, neither 90l. or 10l. *remain*—but there may be a substitution of another interest in lieu of this devised fee, as if I give to A. and his heirs, but if he die before 21, to B. and his heirs.” This is a substitution, but no remainder; neither can an interest devised at some future period, without a prior devised interest, be called a remainder; as if a devise be “to a woman

\* This at first sight may seem to militate against Lodgington and Kime; but, in fact, it does not. The two fees were not in remainder one after the other, but on this or that contingency one was to take effect, the other to be entirely void—So in Doe and Burnfall, *supra*.

man on her marriage"—Prior to her marriage nothing is devised, her interest is *not* part of the fee pointed to take effect after a preceding interest pointed out by the Will. If a devise were to "A. for life, remainder to B. when married"—here B. has a contingent remainder, and shall take at A.'s death, if she happens then to be married. When a fee is limited after a fee, or a future interest is devised without a preceding estate, it is said to be an executory devise. So a devise to A. and his heirs; but if he die before 21, to B. and his heirs. The devise to B. is an executory devise. The fee is limited to A. therefore there can be no remainder, but a substitution. So a devise to the first son of R. that shall attain 21, is an executory devise, for no prior estate is created, and the interest in the mean-time descends to the heir at law, 2 Bl. Com. 173, &c. With regard to executory devises, it is the rule that they (to be valid) must be such as will vest or come in possession within a life in being, and 21 years and a few months afterwards, 3d Fearne, 321, as to the first son of A. who shall attain 21. This is good, and it may be 21 years and some months before it vests in possession, as A. may have a Posthumous son. This limitation, as to the vesting in possession of these estates, is fixed on, because they cannot be barred or prevented taking effect, 3d Fearne, 306. But limitations after executory devises, which limitations may not vest in possession within the limited time, may be good,

good, as in *Brownsword and Edwards*, 2d *Vesey*, 243. Devise was to trustees and their heirs to receive the rents, profits, &c. and if John Brownsword should attain 21, or have issue, then to John B. in tail. If John B. dies before 21, and (or) without issue, then to S. B. in tail.—J. B. lived to be 21, and then died without issue, and S. B. took an estate tail, and *Ld. Chancellor* said, (P. 249) if J. B. had died under 21 without issue, *then* S. B. would have taken as an executory devise; but when he arrived at 21, and took in tail in possession, which estate might have continued for centuries, *then* S. B.'s executory devise was converted into a *remainder*, and might have been barred.

What has been said on this subject has had for object the refreshing the ideas of persons acquainted with law, and of deterring those unacquainted with it, from the very perilous effort of attempting to dispose of their property, when any thing beyond a very simple devise is meant. I shall dismiss the subject of executory devises with a short notice of two late cases.—In *Blandford and Thackerell*, 2d *Vesey*, jun. 238, July, 1793, a devise was to trustees (amongst other things) to educate and place out fourteen of the children and grandchildren of certain of his relations, and *Lord Chancellor* declared that the trust should extend to *all* grandchildren who *in fact* should be born in life-time of the persons specified in the Will; because lives in being, and 21 years after, being the allowed limit,  
here



here the devise *must* be executed within lives in being and 14 years at most; which division, in a more simple form, is this: A. has no child—a devise to his grandchild at 14 is not void, as A. *may* have a grandchild born to him in his life-time. The other case is Proctor and Bishop of Bath and Wells, 2d H. Bl. R. 358. It was a devise to the first son of B. who should be bred a clergyman and be in holy orders. B. had no son. *This* was declared *ab initio void*—the contingency was too remote; because tho' certainly B. *might* have a son in orders even during his life, yet it might very probably happen to be 23 years after his death before any son of his could answer the description of the devisee. This case was in Mich. 1794.

It is a general rule that nothing shall be considered as an executory devise which may be taken as a contingent remainder, 3. Fearne, 418, Ray, 29.

To contingent remainders it is necessary, that to be good there must, at the time of their creation, be a probability of their taking effect. They must be good at first, to be good at all. A remainder to the right heirs of a person unborn is not good; it is too remote a probability, that during the continuance of the preceding estate, such person should both be born and die, for till his death no one is his right heir. So a devise in remainder to Richard the son of A. where A. has no son at the time, is bad for the

Allowable contingencies.

F double

double uncertainty; 1st, that he shall have a son at all—2d, that this son, if he has one, shall be called Richard, 2d Blac. Com. 170. 2d Rep. 51. b. *sed vide* Purefoy and Rogers, 2d Sanders, 380. I am not aware of any case in which the point was argued since Lord Coke's time, except Purefoy and Rogers, and there no objection appeared to be taken to the uncertainty arising from the name. The case went off on another point.

Unborn  
bastards.

A limitation to an unborn bastard is not good, Cro. El. 509. C. L. 3. b. See Mr. Hargrave's Note.—This case of Bloodwell and Edwards is differently stated in different books.—Mr. H. thinks the point settled.—Lord Macclesfield, in Metham and Devon, 1 Wms. 529, was strongly against permitting bastards born *after*, a devise “to the natural children which my son shall have by Mrs. Heneage” to take. Perhaps as much as may be to mix compassion with policy, it might be an allowed distinction, to permit bastards in *ventre sa mere* to take, but to prohibit devises to future begotten ones.

Contingent remainders cannot be limited on a lease for years, as the freehold would remain in the grantor or testator's heir. An executory devise, after a term for years, is good. If a vested remainder is limited after a term for years, the remainder man takes the freehold immediately. Yet a vested remainder, it is said, cannot be limited on a lease at Will, 8 Co. 75. a.

After

After a life estate is limited to a person not in being, there can be no limitation beyond it to the children of such unborn person, for that would tend to make the estate too long inalienable, the unborn tenant for life having no power, unless joined by a vested remainder man in fee or tail of full age, to bar remainders, Harg. Co. L. n. 271. at p. 277. a. In Routledge and Dorril, 2d Vesey, jun. 366, Master of Rolls says, "A question might arise how far an unborn child is to be made tenant for life; but it is established, upon good principles certainly, that that may be. The doubt was, whether it was not tying up the estate beyond lives in being and 21 years afterwards: But that is not so when the absolute interest is disposed of and *vested*, tho' part is given for life; for that person, with the person having the absolute interest, may dispose of the estate. It is not inalienable.

Life estate  
to an un-  
born person

## REMAINDERS CROSS.

It is often wished by testator that a subsequent remainder shall not take place till all the prior devisees have died without issue; as if he devises Blackacre to A. and the heirs of his body, Whiteacre to B. and the heirs of his body, and if they die without issue of one or either of them, remainder to C. in fee.—Here, if B. die without issue, B. and his issue shall take, and C. shall have nothing till both die without issue, Dyer, 303. b. Hob. 33.—and in this case they are both



## DEVISES CROSS.

said to have cross remainders. The rule laid down by Lord Mansfield is, that cross remainders between two shall be construed favourably, but the court will lean against implying cross remainders amongst more—yet an explicit declaration will create them amongst any number, Pery and White, Cowp. 777. Phipard and Mansfield, 797. Atherton and Pie, 4 T. R. 710.

## DEVISE IMPLIED.

Interests are often created by Will without any explicit verbal description of them—as if testator devises to his heir at law after the death of his wife, no estate is pointed out for the wife; but, from the implied intention of the testator she shall take for life, Vaugh. 262. 3.—so if there is a devise to B. and if B. die without issue, to C.—the issue of B. shall take, 1 Vesey, 26. Allanson and Clitherow. 1 Wms. 605. Blacborn and Edgley. A devise was to A. for life, remainder to her first and other sons and the heirs of their bodies; and in default of such issue, *to her daughters as tenants in common*. Though it might be meant that the daughters should take in fee or in tail, yet the court could not imply such intention, but allowed them merely a life estate, 4 T. R. 83. These implied estates are not favoured, and why should the testator trust to what may be of doubtful construction, when an explicit expression will make all clear? If, in the former

mer case, the devise had been to a stranger after the wife's death, should she take any thing? Vaugh. 266. mo. 123. 4 Bro. 534.

DEVISE IN SEVERALTY, JOINT TENANCY, TENANCY IN COMMON.

An estate in severalty is where one enjoys the whole without any other joined in possession with him. As if I devise to A. he holds in severalty. Of joint-tenancy something has been said before; and that joint-tenancy is not favoured, see ante, title, "What may be devised." If an estate is given to more than one without restrictive or explanatory words being used, they shall take as joint tenants, and the survivor enjoys the whole; as if I devise lands to "A. and B. and their heirs"—A. dies, B. succeeds to the whole in lieu of A.'s heir taking half. If I devise to two or more to take as tenants in common, there is no survivorship. There is no absolute necessity for using these words, "tenants in common."—To A. and B. equally to be divided, will make tenancy in common, at least in a Will.—The regular phrase is safest.—See 2d Bl. Com. ch. 12, throughout.

DEVISES OF PERSONALTY.

It was formerly held by the courts, that if goods or chattels were themselves actually devised to any one, there could be no limitation or further devise over; but if the *use only* was devised, there might. The legal estate continuing

continuing in the executor or some appointee, sufficed to give efficacy to these various uses: But this distinction is now at an end; and though the thing itself is devised, there may be a devise over, provided the limits allowed by law are not transgressed, 8. Rep. 95. Skin. 341. 1 Wms. 1. Hyde and Parratt.

DEVICES OF PERSONALTY ARE SPECIFIC OR  
GENERAL.

Effects of  
specific de-  
vise.

A devise of any particular property, as, *my* black coat, *my* lease in A. is called specific. The consequence of a specific devise is, that it shall not contribute its proportion with other devises towards paying debts; nor if, after debts paid, sufficient does not remain to pay all the legacies, shall a specific devise abate. If general legatees take only half *their* legacies, (or any other proportion) yet a specific legatee shall take *his* undiminished. To have all other personalty first applied to paying debts, and to have his legacy prior to all others, (Devon and Atkins, 2d Wms. 382) are the advantages of specific legatee.—But he lies under this disadvantage: If the specific legacy is a lease, and is evicted, or goods, and burnt or destroyed, or debts, and lost, as specific legatee shall not contribute to others, so they shall not contribute towards him, Hinton and Pinke, 1 Wms. 540.

What de-  
vises speci-  
fic.

Great doubts have arisen as to what is a specific legacy. Strictly speaking, it is said Lord Hardwicke, 1 Atk. 417, Purse and Snaplin,



Snaplin, to be a bequest of a particular chattel, specifically described and distinguished from all others of the same kind—so money may be—as money in a certain chest—Lawson and Stick, 1 Atkin. 508—or a particular debt—Ellis and Walker, Ambl. 310. A mere bequest of *quantity* is not a specific legacy; as 100l. 1000l. 3 per cent. consols; and where testator has not so much stock at the time of his death, it is a direction to the executor to purchase it, Partridge and Partridge, Ca. Tem. Talb. 227. It is clear enough from the definition above, that *any* 1000l. 3 per cent. consols is no specific legacy. But *my* 1000l. 3 per cent. consols is a specific legacy, if testator has the stock at the time; and if he sells it, it is ademption of the legacy, Ashburner and Macquire, 2 Bro. 108.

There are terms used to describe specific legacies whose meaning is in many cases doubtful; their extending to this or that property depending on particular circumstances—goods—household goods—chattels—linen—have created difficulties. Pr. Ch. 8. Chapman and Hart, 1 Vesey, 273. They seem to pass *small sums*, not large ones. But what is a small sum? Let money be added, if it is meant to pass. Rings and households goods were held not to pass plate, Pr. Ch. 207. Jeffon and Effington. But in the notes a case is cited in 63, in which household furniture did pass plate, and so 2d Wms. 420. Nicholls and Osborne. On this

this part of the subject the cases are very numerous and very dissonant, and an enumeration of the particular sorts of property meant to be devised is at once a sure and an easy mode of avoiding doubt.

There is another sort of inaccuracy in making specific bequests, arising not from the neglect of such words as properly describe the sort of thing, but the neglect of pointing out what things of that sort shall pass. As a devise of "her best linen," was held void: for what is *best linen*? Linen in such a drawer, or worn on such an occasion, is definite.

#### DONATIO MORTIS CAUSA

Very nearly resembles a specific devise. It is a gift made by a person supposing himself near death, to be kept by the person to whom it is given if the donor die—and if the donor do not die, it is to revert to him. It must be delivered by the deviser, or by some one authorised by him, 2 Bl. Com. 514. If the gift was absolute, (i. e. a gift whether the testator should die or not) it is not a Donatio Mortis Causa, tho' the testator does die.—A. gave a banker's check in this form—"Pay myself or bearer 200l.—Mark Bell"—he died in four days. By Lord Chancellor. This cannot be a Don. Mort. Caus. it was a present gift. The donee might immediately have gone to the banker's to receive the money, Tate and Hilbert, 2d F. Vesey, 115. 116. Delivery is a necessary part of a Donatio

natio Mortis Causa, Ward and Turner, 2d Vesey, 437. "If you take away the necessity of *this*, it is merely a Nuncupative Will," *ib.* p. 443. Lord Chancellor thought delivery of a symbol in lieu of the thing given not to be good. In all the cases in the Court of Chancery delivery of the thing given, and not in name of the thing given, is relied on; as in the delivery of sixpence in Shargold and Shargold. The only case in which such delivery of a symbol seems to have been held good is Jones and Selby, Pre. Ch. 300, where the delivery of the key of a box seemed considered as sufficient to pass the property contained in the box; but Lord Chancellor thought the delivery of the key to be esteemed a mode of putting into possession of the property." In Millar and Millar, 3d Wms. 358, it is said, a note not payable to bearer could not be given as a Don. Mortis Causa, because it was a Chose in Action, and to be sued in name of executors. In same case 600l. in bank notes was allowed a good Don. Mortis Causa, Snellgrove and Bailey, 3d Atkins, 214. Delivery of a bond is good to make a Don. Mortis Causa—see the case of Ward and Turner, 2d Vesey, 431, where the subject is considered at length. The principal point was, whether receipts for South Sea Annuities, being given on prospect of death, could pass the annuities themselves, and it was determined they could not. Enough has been said on this subject to shew that it is by no means safe for a person in his illness to satisfy himself with what *he* may deem a sufficient bequest of property by way

Must be  
delivery of  
the thing.

Choses in  
action.



of Don. Mortis Causa. In almost any case three lines on a slip of paper, by way of Codicil, signed by testator, or even read over to and approved by him, will take away every possible doubt.

#### DEVISES OF PERSONALTY VESTED OR NOT.

If a devise is vested, though it be not immediately payable, it shall go to the executors of devisee. If it is contingent, and the contingency never happens, of course it shall sink into the fund whence it would have been payable. A legacy *payable at 21*, (or any other age) or *to be paid at 21*, is vested: But a *devise to A. at 21*, or *if he attain 21*, is contingent, Stapleton and Cheales, Pre. Ch. 317. The difference between the two sets of cases is sufficiently obvious: In the first there is a *general*, i. e. a *present, devise*, with a *particular time of payment*; in the second there is *no present devise*, but a possible one, a *devise at 21*, or *if 21*. But if other circumstances shew that this apparently contingent devise is meant to be a present one, as if interest on the legacy till time of payment is ordered, then it is vested, Pre. Ch. 318. But legacies charged on real property, or a term for years, and devised *generally, payable or to be paid at* such an age, shall *not* go to the executors of a person dying before the time of payment, but shall sink into the estate, 2 Bro. 106. n. Pr. Ch. 318. But if the testator expressly vests the legacy charged on land, it shall go to the personal representatives. Nor does Mr. Butler doubt but that if an expressed intention is

is sufficient to make it vested, but also an implied one may, if the implication is stronger in favour of vesting the legacy than of not vesting it, H. Co. L. 237. n.

## DEVISES WITH RESTRAINTS ON MARRIAGE.

It is not unusual to make devises, adding a condition of "marriage with consent of a parent, a guardian, or some other person." In many cases these conditions are held good; in others they are construed to be merely in terrorem—as a sort of check on the legatee, acting on his fears, but not really subjecting him to lose the legacy. If there is a devise over on marriage without consent, the condition shall be valid, and the devise over good, 3d Atkins, 331, Reynish and Martin. In Scott and Tyler, 2 Bro. a devise over of the residue was esteemed sufficient to make a forfeiture. If the devise is of personalty, and the legacy not to vest till marriage with consent, still on marriage without consent the legacy is due, if not limited over, 3d Atk. 330. It is the same if the legacy is charged on real property in aid of personal, ib. If the legacy is originally charged on land, it shall not be paid till the condition is performed—sc marriage with consent, ib. 333. A testator devised that a condition should not be in terrorem, but be valid.—This is doubly in terrorem, so not to be construed differently from the common case, Long and Dennis, 4 Burr. 2053. A condition imposed by a stranger is equally valid with one im-

G 2

posed

posed by a parent, per Willes, Harvey and Aston, 1 Atk. 377.

Consent given after the marriage.

It should appear an after-consent will suffice.—Reynish and Martin, cited above, is contrary.—But Lord Hardwicke, in Hurlestone and Humphreys, Amb. 256, nine years after his dictum in Reynish and Martin, seemed of another opinion. See n. 1, 1 Atk. 381, 2d Atk. 264. n. 3d Ed. In Dunning and Long, Burr. 205. Lord Mansfield holds Hurlestone and Humphreys to be right. Master of the Rolls says, in Mercer and Hall, 4 Bro. 328, A consent after marriage has been held to be good, where the consent was *not* required to be in writing.—This was an *obiter* saying, not the particular point in question. Lord Mansfield, in the case in Burrow, is of opinion, that even where a written consent is required, an after-consent may suffice.

#### DEVISE OF PERSONALTY—IN PROESENTI—REMAINDER.

If a devise of personalty is expressive of an estate tail—As to A. for life, and afterwards to the heirs of his body, (in which case A. is construed to take in tail—see ante, “Interest devised in Realty”) the first devisee takes the whole interest, and a remainder over is void, 2d Vesey, 661, Garth and Baldwin, per Ld. Chancellor, Jacobs and Amyatt, 4 Bro. 542. “I admit the rule in Dawes and Earl Chatham, that where personalty is so given,  
if



if the words would create a tenancy in tail in land, it is absolute; but that rule has never been extended further than where the words create a clear estate tail." But this rule of artificial construction, it should seem, is only applicable where there is no apparent intention of using words in their natural meaning; "and for that purpose, which is in favour of common sense, the most trifling circumstance is sufficient," per Buller, 1st T. R. 597, Doe and Lyde. So to A. for life, then to the heirs of her body, *to be divided amongst them, share and share alike*—This gives A. no more than a life interest, 4 Bro. 542. If a devise of a term is to A. and his heirs of his body, and if he die *leaving no heir of his body, to go over*—*this* devise over is good, because it is a contingency certainly confined to a life in being, and this contingent limitation, within the allowed bounds, prevents the first devisee taking the whole interest, 2d T. R. 720. Goodtitle and Pegden. But it is to be remembered, that a devise to A. and his issue, and if he *dye without issue*, remainder over, the remainder over is *not* good, because in law the meaning of *dying without issue* is a *general or entire failure of issue*, and there may not be an entire failure of issue for centuries, Bigge and Bensley, 1 Bro. 187.

The cases on this subject are numerous and complex, and I have said only little on it, because to say much, and to say with certain precision, required more time than could well be given to a very small portion of a very small book.

The

Remain-  
ders in  
chattels af-  
ter life  
estates.

When to  
be good de-  
vise of  
personalty  
must vest  
in posses-  
sion.

The courts were long in permitting any limitation of a chattel interest after what would in real estate have made a freehold: So if a lease were devised to one for life merely, the whole vested in him, 8 R. 95. When, in compliance with the testator's intention, this rule was broken through, the subsequent interest was called an executory devise; and thus it was named, whether there was or was not a *failure* of support. The rule now is, that to be good a future disposition of personal property must vest, i. e. come in possession within lives in being and 21 years afterwards. The last case in which this rule was acknowledged, and in part acted upon, was Blandford and Thackerell, 2d Vesey, jun. 238. This rule is laid down in analogy to that observed in real estate; but as fines and recoveries do not apply to personalty, as is said above, the first *vested estate* tail gives the entire interest; were it otherwise, the next executory devise beyond it might wait beyond the allowed time before it vested in possession:—So in Foley and Burne, 1 Bro. 274—Devise of furniture, &c. Father was tenant for life, son vested remainder man in tail—it was held the son took the entire interest, (subject to the life estate) and he dying before his father, his father succeeded to this interest as his son's personal representative.

Condition-  
al disposi-  
tion of the  
whole in-  
terest.

It was for a time held, that where there was a conditional disposition of the whole property, no remainder over would be good, though

though the first conditional disposition never took place. This has since been over ruled—May have limitations after it. as, A term was settled on husband and wife for life, then on the first son of the marriage, and *the heirs of his body*, then over, the limitation over was held good. But in prior cases, as the unborn son's possible interest would have been an entire ownership, it would have been held, that whether there was a son or no, the limitation over could not be good, Higgins and Dawler, 1 Wms. 98, 3 Ed. Fearn, 407.

## LEGACIES IN SATISFACTION OF DEBT.

A legacy is sometimes considered merely as a satisfaction of an existing demand on the deviser, Pre. Ch. 394, Talbot and Shrewsbury. But it were well that the testator should be explicit and say whether he meant it for a satisfaction or not. If a sum is secured by a marriage settlement, and the father afterwards devises this sum for the child's portion, the child shall not have both the sums, Copley and Copley, 1 Wms. 146, Finch and Finch, 4 Bro. 38. But if the debt arose merely on a running account, so that testator might not know that any debt existed, the legacy shall not be deemed a satisfaction, Rawlins and Powel, 1 Wms. 299. If the legacy is greater or less than the debt, it shall not be considered as extinguishing the debt, or satisfying it in part, 2 Sal. 508, Cranmer's Case.

If



If the devisee die before the testator, the devise is lapsed, i. e. void, and the subsequent devisee or heir at law shall take immediately. If a devise is to A. and his heirs, and A. dies before the testator, the testator's heir, not the heir of A. shall take, 1 Rep. 155. b. Fuller and Fuller, Cro. E. 423. There is a very hard case of this sort:—The devise was to A. and his issue, remainder to B. and his issue, remainder to the right heirs of A.—A. died before the testator, and it was adjudged by the whole court that the right heirs of A. should take nothing; for, their ancestor having had left to him a freehold interest, followed by a devise to his heirs, these two interests, according to the principle mentioned supra, (title, Interest devised in Realty) would have consolidated in the ancestor; and so it was as if a devise had been “to this ancestor and his right heirs”—in which case clearly the heir could take nothing, if the ancestor died before the testator, Goodright and Wright, 1 Wms. 397, cited 4th Ed. Fearn, 255.

In a case from Ireland—The father devised to his eldest son in tail male, remainder on the determination of this estate to his second son in tail male, and so on.—The eldest son died in his father's life, leaving a son.—The father died—it was adjudged that the son of the eldest son could take nothing, but the second son was entitled: As to the eldest son and his heirs male, it was a lapsed devise—cited 1 Bro. 219, Jones and Morgan.

Where

Where the heir or issue is to take under a continuation of the prior devisee's estate or interest, *then* if the devisee dies before the testator, the issue or heir shall take nothing. If a devise is to A. and the heirs of his body, A. would take in tail, his eldest son would take after his decease under a continuation of this estate tail. So if a devise is to A. and his heirs, and A. comes into possession and dies, the heir of A. takes as such, and as a continuation of this fee simple devised to A. But if the heir or issue does *not* take as continuing the prior estate, *then* he shall take, though the prior devisee do die before the testator.—So if a devise is to A. for life, and after his decease to his eldest son and the issue of this eldest son (in which case there is no consolidation of A.'s prior interest and the subsequent one to his son)—here, though A. dies before the testator, his eldest son shall take, for he takes under no continuation of his father's interest, which was a life estate ending with himself, and to which estate the son is as a perfect stranger.

Where heir or issue cannot take.

Where they can.

DEVISE VESTED.

But in some cases devises do not lapse, though the devisee under whom the claim is, is never in possession. Devise to A. till B. attains 18, then to B. and his heirs, B. survives the testator, but dies before 18, B.'s interest is vested and shall go to his heirs, 4 T. R. 41. 3 R. 21. R. 2. Mod. 290.—Devise to A. for years, remainder to B. in

H

fee,

## DEVISE VESTED.

fee, the freehold vests immediately in B.—It has been determined, that if devisee in fee or in tail die before the testator, and the testator republishes his Will, yet the heir or issue in tail shall not take. A republication is no explicit design of re-establishing a devise which had become utterly void.

## LEGACY LAPSED.

Where the devisee of personalty dies before the testator, his devise lapses, though the devise had been to A. his executors, administrators, and assigns. To make it valid to the representatives of the devisee, there must be something to express that intent clearly; as, to A. and if he die before me, to his executors, administrators, or next akin, 3 Bro. 224. Bridge and Abbot.

## REVOCATION OF DEVISE.

By the St. 29. Ch. 2d. C. 3d. S. vi. devise of realty must be revoked by a Will or Codicil, (executed to pass land) or by a writing signed by the testator in presence of three or four witnesses.\* Nor (Sec. xxii.) shall a Will

\* It is necessary particularly to attend to the difference to be observed in *executing* a *Will of Lands*, and in *revoking* a *Will of Lands*.—The *Will* must be executed by the testator in presence of three witnesses, who are all to attest the execution in the testator's presence;—but a mere revocation requires that the testator shall actually sign in the presence of three witnesses, but it is not necessary that the witnesses should sign in the testator's presence.



Will or clause of one relative to personal property be revoked otherwise than in writing, unless the oral revocation be put down in writing, be read to and approved by the testator, and this be proved by three witnesses. Also cancelling, tearing, burning, obliterating a Will, are revocations \*, S. vi. A deed, though not valid as an appointment to uses which it was intended to be, may yet be good as a revocation of a Will, if such it is meant to be, Shove and Pinch, 5 T. R. 124—310.

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There

\* In Onions and Tyrer, 1st Wms. 342. The testator devised lands by a Will properly executed, then by another Will he devised them to other trustees to the same uses—the latter Will was not duly executed, as the testator signed in presence of three witnesses, but the witnesses did not sign in the testator's presence.—As the second Will was not in fact meant to be a revocation of the first, the land being devised to the same uses, the first Will was held good.—For by the Lord Chancellor, “The better evidence is, that the Will was not cancelled by tearing it in the presence of the testator; but if the testator did order it to be cancelled, the effect of such cancelling depended on the validity of the second Will, and ought to be taken as one act done at the same time:—So that if the second Will is not valid, as the testator thought it was, and without which he would not have cancelled the first, the cancelling of the first Will depending thereon, ought to be looked upon as null also,” N. to P. 344.—Cancelling is itself an equivocal act, it must be done *animo revocandi*, Burtenshaw and Gilbert, Cowp. 49. With regard to revoking by subsequent devise, it is necessary that the second Will should expressly revoke or be clearly incompatible with the first devise, *as to the particular subject matter of such devise*; for where an effective devise has once been made in disheirison of the heir at law, it shall be on the heir to prove such devise as effectively defeated, Harwood and Goodright, Cowp. 87, 7 Bro. P. C. 344.

Implied revocations.

Alterations in the situation of the family.

Where not allowed.

There are also implied or legal revocations—as where testator made his Will, then married; his wife some time after told him she was with child, whereupon he said he would revoke his Will; however he died without doing so, and before his wife was brought to bed. The Will was deemed revoked, not so much on the intention to revoke, (for intention to revoke is not within the statute) as on a tacit condition annexed to the Will itself, that it should not take effect if there were a total change in the testator's family situation, *Per Kenyon, C. J. Doe and Lancashire, 5 T. R. 58.* But these presumptive revocations are many of them of a very nice nature, and not to be depended upon with any certainty. In *Shepherd and Shepherd, at Doctors Commons, stated 5 T. R. 51,* a Will was made, then a child born; a Codicil gave this child an annuity, the wife was made residuary legatee, then two more children were born. The birth of these children, who were unprovided for, did not revoke the Will. In *Foster and Cook, 3 Bro. 347,* A. devised his estates to the child his wife was then en ceint with—remainder over on its dying without issue. The child was still born—he then made a Codicil confirming his Will. Forty weeks after his death his wife was delivered of a son. The legitimacy of this son was found by a verdict at common law; but the Lord Chancellor held it intitled to nothing, whatever the testator might have done had this child been in his contemplation—as matters stood it

it was disinherited. See Brady and Cubitt, 1 Dough. 31.

Almost any alteration in the property or possession of an estate is a revocation. "The law requires a continuance of the same interest; even the least alteration of this interest is an actual revocation," per Trevor, C. J. 11. Mod. 157, Archer and Bottenham. If a man devises, then makes a conveyance of the lands, then purchases them again, this is a revocation of the devise of these lands, Gilb. Wills, 101. If a person is seised of a lease for three lives, and devises it, and then surrenders the lease in order to take a new one, this is a revocation, Abney and Miller, 2d Atk. 593, 1 Bro. 261, Hone and Medcraft. Articles to convey revoke the devise, 2d Wms. 624. A recovery suffered with intent to confirm a Will, is a revocation, per Lord Hardwick, 5. Bac. ab. 527.—but mortgages are only so far revocations as to pass the lands subject to the burden, ib. If a man devises, then leases the lands, it is only a revocation during the lease, 1 Rol. ab. 616. U. 1. "The common rule that the estate must pass by the last conveyance applies—but then it must be a conveyance of the whole estate—it must extend as far as that appointment which the Will has made; for if it is but of a part, it affects the Will no farther than that part goes.—If it is of a partial interest, it will not operate as a revocation of the rest," 2d Vesey, jun. 428. per Lord Chancellor, in Brydges and Chandos. To be safe in all alteration

Alterations of interest in the property devised.

Where no revocation-leases. Mortgages.



cases we would advise the testator, where any alteration in his estate has taken place, to republish his Will, or add a Codicil, declaratory of his intention, that the land shall go as devised—on the other hand, that he shall directly revoke a bequest he does not mean to stand.

Revocation  
of personal  
devises.

As to revocations in case of personalty:—  
If a sum is devised and another given after the Will made to the devisee in the testator's life-time, it will in many cases amount to an ademption of the legacy:—But if two legacies of the same sum are given to the same person in a Will and a Codicil, the legatee is intitled to both, unless there are circumstances from which a different intention could be collected—and proof of these is thrown on the executor, James and Semmers, 2 H. Bl. 219. If the two devises are in the same instrument, legatee shall have but one, unless *he* can prove the testator's intention different, Swinb. 526, cited 2. H. Bl. 218. To specify cases might only mislead the testator, by inducing him to exert his own judgment on these presumptive revocations—Let him note in his Will such a sum is or is not meant in part a satisfaction of the legacy.

#### RESIDUE.

Many difficulties have arisen as to what shall become of the surplus or residue of the personalty after debts and legacies—shall it go to the executor, or shall it be distributed amongst the next a-kin, according to the Statute?

Statute? If there is no executor appointed, the remainder clearly is distributable;—if there is a residuary legatee, it is equally clear that the executor has no claim.

By making an executor, the testator points out a person in whom vests the legal interest in all his personalty. On this property debtors and legatees have a claim, but their claims being satisfied, as the property is at law the executor's, he shall retain it, except circumstances arise which shall convert him into a mere trustee of this surplus.

Where ex-  
ecutors  
shall take.

After premising that all doubt may be avoided by two most simple expressions:—  
“As to the residue, I make my executor trustee for my next akin”—“As for the residue, I give it to my executor.” I shall state a few of the cases in which the executor has or has not been deemed trustee for the next akin.—The rule, as usually conceived, is, that a legacy to the executor shall bar him of the residue, for he to whom a part is given is not meant to take the whole, *Hornsby and Finch*, 2d F. Vesey, 79. But as determined in *Lawson and Lawson*, 7 Bro. P. C. and agreed to by Lord Chancellor, 2d F. Vesey, 80, the mere circumstance of the executor's having a legacy is not sufficient to bar him of the residue—it must be so qualified that the giving it is inconsistent with the supposition that the executor is to take the whole. See *Clennel and Lewthwaite*, 2d Ves. jun. 465. This construction of the rule leads

Where le-  
gacy no  
bar.

leads to many nice distinctions and uncertainties. If there are two executors, and one only has a legacy, neither shall be excluded from the surplus, 2d Vesey, 97, Cloyne and Young. If a residue is devised, and a blank left for the name, this is strong against the executor, *ib.* 16. In Nichols and Crisp, Amb. 768, executors had legacies, and the residue was devised, but the devisee died before testator—the lapsed legacy was adjudged to the next akin. If executors have unequal legacies, they shall not be excluded the surplus, 1 Bro. 328, Bowker and Hunter. In Pickering and Stamford, 2d F. Vesey, 272, executors were devised the whole personalty in the Will—a Codicil gave it them in trust to charitable uses. Part of this last disposition was void as to the uses—the executors were considered as to the void part mere trustees for the next akin.

As it is not the object of this little work to construe Wills when made, but to suggest a few hints to those who have to make them, it is not worth while further to produce cases on a point the very existence of which a single sentence will guard against.

## OF TRUSTS.

In many cases the testator's intentions will be best secured by a devise in trust. Devises for any particular purpose will be compelled by Chancery to do that for which their devise was created, Com. Dig. Ch. 4. W. 1.  
As



As if lands be devised to trustees and their heirs to sell and pay debts—see Harg. Co. L. 113 a. n. 2.—in trust out of the rents and profits to pay an annuity for life—or if there is a devise of money or lands in trust to pay the rents and profits to the sole and separate use of a married woman, without the control of her present or any future husband. If a devise, without naming trustees, is expressed to be for the sole and separate use of a married woman, her husband shall be a mere trustee for her, Bennet and Davis, 2d Wms. 316, 3 Bro. 381, Lee and Prieaux. If the trustees named are incapable to take, the trusts shall attach on the legal estate, which in that case will fall to the heir at law, Sonley and Clockmakers' Company, 1 Bro. 81. And if occasion requires, Chancery will oblige trustees to give security, 1 Ch. R. 100.

A great distinction has been made between trusts executed and trusts executory. Where the interest of the person to be benefited by the Will (*cestui que trust*) is directly created by the Will, it is called a trust *executed*. The testator has taken upon him definitely and ultimately to give the trust interest himself; as where a testator makes A. a trustee for B. for life, and after his decease for the heirs of the body of B.—Jones and Morgan, 1 Bro. 206.—Here the testator himself creates B.'s interest, and, according to the rule mentioned above, B. is tenant in tail: but if, instead of creating the interest himself, the testator had devised to trustees and their heirs in trust to

Trusts executed executory.

I                      make

make a settlement on B. for his life, and afterwards on the heirs of his body—here the testator does *not* take on himself to be the direct and immediate donor, but refers to a future conveyance to be settled at leisure by skilful hands, and in such case Chancery would decree B. to take for life only, securing estates tail to the issue. This was the case in *Bastard and Proby*, at the Rolls, 1788, cited 4th Ed. 2d. Wm. rep. 478—see 4th Fearn, 213, and Seq. Papillon and Voice, 2d Wms. 471, Austin and Taylor, Amb. 376, Brown and De Laet, 4 Bro. 527. This hint may be sufficient to induce persons, who may not have proper assistance at hand, to content themselves with making merely executory trusts, where the interest will be given full effect to by the Court of Chancery, however ignorantly and improperly the testator may make use of terms of law; whereas, if the testator will create the interest himself, the legal import of words must often prevail against his wishes. This is advisable, more especially where large estates are devised, in which case the expences of future conveyances, under an order of Chancery, would not be felt.

Recom-  
mendations

There is a series of cases in which great doubt has arisen whether or no there is a trust—as where there are wishes, desires, or recommendations of having persons remembered by the devisee, &c.—as, “and it is my dying bequest that the said P. if he should die without issue living at his death, dispose of

of the property amongst the descendants of A." Pierson and Garnet, rep. Pr. Ch. 200, in a note to 2d Ed. This recommendation was deemed binding. Bland and Bland, cited ib. "and it is my earnest request to my son that he settle, in his life-time, *the said estate, or so much as he shall be seised of at his death*, on A."—This was not deemed obligatory, because the words "or as much, &c." plainly shewed that the son was meant to have complete power over the estate. The rule laid down in Malim and Keighley, 2d Vesey, jun. 335, per Matter of Rolls, is, "Wherever any person gives property, and points out the object, the property, and the way in which it shall go, that does create a trust, unless he shews clearly that his desire expressed is to be controlled by the party, and that he shall have his option to defeat it." This rule renders the matter perfectly easy. If the testator is decided which way the property *shall* go, let him use words by which devises are usually made. If he trusts to the devisee, meaning him to act at his discretion, (exerting itself on the existing circumstances at the time when the recommendation must take place, if at all,) shall point out, let him in direct terms liberate the devisee from all controul of Chancery, or any other Court, Harland and Trig, 1 Bro. 142, Wynne and Watkins, 1 Bro. 179, ib. Nowlan and Nilligan, 489,

## GUARDIANS.

By the St. 12. Ch. 2d. C. 24. S. 8. 9. A father may, though a minor, by Will or  
I 2
Deed,



Deed, attested by two witnesses, appoint a guardian or guardians to his children.—He may appoint for any length of time, till 21, or for a shorter space, and to several in succession; as to his wife whilst she remains a widow, on her marriage to another.—If father devise the custody of his son without saying for what time, it is only good till he is 14, per Vaugh. 184, 185. This guardian shall have the custody of all the infant's property, ib. 186—see H. Co. L. 89, a. n. 15.

#### OF CHARGING ESTATES WITH DEBTS AND LEGACIES.

It is every man's duty to make sufficient of his estates liable to all his debts. *The law* does not charge real property with simple contract debts; therefore this is necessary to be done by Will\*. Chancery has been very astute in discovering a design to saddle debts on land,—as a devise—"I will that all my debts, legacies, and funeral expences shall be paid and satisfied in the first place," was held to make lands liable, Pre. Ch. 430. *Trott and Vernon.*

Debts.

In many cases it is most wise to make an express devise of particular lands to trustees and their heirs, or to them and their executors for a long term, and to make this estate liable to debts to the exclusion of others. By doing

\* In a bond the heir must be named as well as the obligor, otherwise he is not bound, *Barber and Fox*, 2d Saund. 136.

doing this clearly and sufficiently, the rest of the landed property being free from all charge, is directly capable of every sort of transfer without endangering purchasers.

A great question has arisen what property is first to be applied to pay debts? If the personal is first to be applied, the interest of all the legatees may be materially affected, *they* may lose all benefit, and devisees of land enjoy *their* whole devises. If the Will is such as to saddle land first, *then* the direct contrary takes place.

How far legacies shall be charged on lands Legacies. is a nice question. If legacies are charged on lands, and there are any lands which descend to the heir at law, he shall take them liable to the legacies, Scott and Scott, Ambl. 383, Clifton and Burt, 1 Wms. 678. Where lands are not charged with legacies, but go to the heir at law, Chancery will, marshall assets, or make the specialty debts chargeable on the land, so as to leave the personalty to supply the legacies, Hanby and Roberts, Ambl. 128. If lands are *devised*, and there are specialty debts which exhaust the personalty, the devised lands shall not be liable to general pecuniary legacies not charged on these lands, ib. 129, Clifton and Burt, sup. The testator, it is to be presumed, as much meant the devisee of the land to have his bequest, as the devisee of the personalty to have his. To make specific devises of land liable to legacies, the intention must be very plainly expressed, Kightly and Kightly, 2d Ves. jun. 328,

328, Trott and Vernon, Pr. Ch. 430, Gilb. Chan. 332, S. C. 2d Vern. 708, S. C. If some legacies are charged on real property devised, others not charged on real property, the legacies charged on the real property devised shall leave the personal assets liable to the other legacies, and if paid out of the personal assets, the realty shall be liable to the amount of the personalty paid, Hanby and Roberts—See Note 1, P. 679, Vol. 1, 5 Ed. Wms. Rep.

**What fund first chargeable.** We are next more particularly to consider the charging lands with debts—1 Bro. 462, Ancafter and Mayer, per Lord Chancellor. “I take it the rules have been these, and they should be adhered to.—In the first place that the personal estate is liable in the first instance to payment of debts; but in exception to this it is agreed, that the testator may, if he pleases, give his personal estate, as against his heir or any other representative, clear of the payment of his debts, and then it becomes a question what is the mode or expression to give the personal estate exempt from such payment, when the rule of law is that such estate is first liable. Perhaps it might not have been unwise to have adopted the rule laid down in Fereges and Robinson, that the testator must use express words for that purpose; but it is impossible to abide by the opinion given in that case, consistently with the rules in other cases. The second rule is, that where there is a declaration plain, that shall stand in lieu of express words.

This



This rule has been laid down so long, and acted on so constantly, that if other judges were to put the construction of Wills upon other grounds, how wise soever it might have been originally to have done so, it would be very unwise to make the administration of justice take a course contrary to former rules. Therefore, if there is a declaration plain, or manifestation clear, so that it is apparent on the face of the Will that there is such a plain intention, the rule is not to disappoint, but to carry such intent into execution. But should not such intention manifestly appear, there is not a single case which does not take it for granted, that the personal fund is the first appointed by law for the payment of debts."

Samwell and Wake, 1st Bro. 144. Sir J. S. devised as follows: "I will and devise that my debts shall be paid, and for that purpose I charge all my estates with the same; and that it may be more easily done, that Sir W. W. and J. K. H. shall sell the estate, and apply the money to the payment of debts and legacies, and that it may be lawful for them to pay out of the rents and profits, or to raise the money by mortgage." Subject to these payments he devised to the plaintiff, his natural son for life, remainder over; the residue he gave to the plaintiff.—The bill was filed to compel the trustees to pay the debts, &c. out of the realty, plaintiff contending he took the personalty exonerated from debts, &c. The Lord Chancellor held there was not in this case an intent to exonerate the personalty sufficiently

sufficiently expressed—it was to be first applied. In *Adams and Meyrick*, 1 Eq. Abr. 271. P. 13. The devise was to trustees in trust, that they do and shall by mortgage, &c. pay and satisfy his debts, &c. His goods at A. he devises, then “all the rest and residue of my personal estate I give and devise to my wife.”—This devise was deemed sufficiently clear to give the wife the residue exempt from charges—*Holliday and Bowman*, 6th Dec. 1776, cited in *Samwell and Wake*, 1 Bro. 145. W. C. devised a manor to trustees in trust to sell, and directed the monies to be raised thereby to be paid in discharge of all his debts, and after payment thereof, in the first place, to invest the residue and pay the interest to his wife for life, and the principal, after her decease, to his nephew. After specific and pecuniary legacies, he gave to his wife all his goods and chattels, and appointed her executrix.—The Lord Chancellor, after some consideration, decreed the lands to be liable to debts before the personalty. The case of *Ancafter and Mayer*, cited above, was this: C. B. devised particular lands to trustees for 99 years—The trust was “to pay and satisfy all the debts I shall owe at my decease.” He, in a subsequent part of his Will, gave “all my household goods, and all other my goods, chattels, effects, and personal estate whatever, unto A.” Afterwards he appoints the aforementioned trustees executors, ordering and appointing them to pay, satisfy, and discharge “all his debts and legacies, as soon as they shall

shall become due and payable, by such methods, ways, and means, and in such manner as he or they, or their counsel learned in the law, shall in that behalf advise and think meet."—Then the executors are to satisfy themselves out of *the personal estate*, or *the trust term*, for charges relative to proving the Will.—One question was, shall the debts be paid out of the personalty first, or is the trust term first liable? Lords Commissioners Ashurst and Hotham decreed the personalty exonerated.—On a re-hearing before Lord Thurlow, 16th June, 1784, &c. on 5th July, 1785, he decreed the personalty liable in the first instance—the intention to apply the realty in exoneration of the personalty was not sufficiently explicit. In *Kidney and Coussmaker*, 1st Vesey, jun, 436, 2d Vesey, jun. 267, land was devised to be sold and considered as personalty—Lord Thurlow in the first instance, and Lord Loughborough afterwards, determined this to be making the fund arising from the sale liable to all debts. This, as appears, P. 268, against the majority of many counsels opinions taken on the case.

Perhaps, after reading through these cases, no testator will be very fond to trust to *implied intentions*. An explicit declaration every one can understand—implied intentions are one thing to one person, another to another. Implied intentions undoubtedly will be best discovered by those who are well acquainted with the general situation of the testator, as to family views, family connections, &c.—

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But



But the rule is, that we are not to travel out of the Will, 1 Bro. 466.—“ Lord Talbot observed, much might arise from the examination as to the quantum of the debts and the amount of the personal estate. Lord Talbot took it as clear that such an examination might be gone into. In *Stephenson and Heathcote* it is said expressly, no examination can be had. In that case Lord Keeper Henley relied much on the wife being executrix. Lord Keeper’s observation on this case was, that the intent of the testator must be collected from the words of the Will, and from no circumstances out of it, and upon general principles and rules established in the cases—that the court could not go into the testator’s circumstances, as it would establish a rule not to be adhered to,” per *Ld. Thurlow*.

APPEN-

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## A P P E N D I X I.

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ON

### POWERS OF APPOINTMENT.

A SPECIES of Trust very usual in Wills, Marriage-Settlements, and other Conveyances, is a Power of Appointment. This Power, when placed in proper hands, is beyond any other provision useful in the settlement of families, inasmuch as instead of calculations of remote possibilities, it is its privilege, from time to time, to act on existing circumstances.—Considering Powers of Appointment as highly useful, and their doctrine not extensively known, I hope it will be found that I have not misemployed a few pages in giving them as clear and familiar an investigation as I am able to do.

WHEN a Power of Appointing is once created, the first question that arises is, to whom may the appointment extend?—The answer to be given must depend on the words creating the power. It is also to be taken into consideration, that however liberally the power may be granted, no execution of it is permissible which binds up property beyond the periods allowed by Law.

If there is a power to appoint amongst any description of persons, an appointment to the children of any of these persons is not good :

As where R. A. gives his wife 600*l.* to dispose of amongst his three daughters by Will or otherwise, by Lord Chancellor—"If Anne (one of the daughters) had left children, although it would be hard, yet the mother (i. e. Anne's mother) could not give it to them, they not being within the description of the power"—Maddeson and Andrews, 1 Vesey, 59. The same principle is acted on by the Master of the Rolls in *Alexander and Alexander*, 2d Vesey, 640. The mother had power to appoint 6000*l.* amongst her children; she appointed a certain sum to one daughter for life, and afterwards to the children of this daughter—which last appointment was held void. Whistler and Webster, 2d Ves. jun. 367, goes on the same principle.

But, under special circumstances, an appointment may be made to the children of the persons who are directly the object of the power.

So in *Langston and Blackmore*, Ambl. 289—A. (the father) had power to appoint to the children of the marriage—By agreement with Lewis, his eldest son, he appointed to Lewis for life, remainder to the issue of Lewis, and the appointment was held good, "as being with the assent of the son, the appointee:—For, per Lord Chancellor, "If it had been to Lewis *absolutely*, he might immediately afterwards have settled it in that manner."—Also in *Alexander and Alexander*, 2d Ves. 642, Master of Rolls says, "The mother *had* a power to do something similar to this, but in another way: For though that power would have enabled her, *for better advancement in marriage*, to make a strict settlement, &c."—on which Buller remarks, 2d T.R. 253. in *Robinson and Hardcastle*. "In *Alexander and Alexander* the Master of the Rolls thought, that if the power had been executed by the mother on the advancement of the daughter in marriage, it might have been supported as an execution in strict settlement, which must have been on account of the consideration and the mutual consent of the mother and daughter, and considering it as a gift absolutely from the mother to the daughter, and the settlement of that money by the daughter "

I have hitherto spoken of appointments of a confined nature, and have shewn that even in hard cases, as in that supposed by the Lord Chancellor in *Maddefon and Andrews*, the power is strictly to be adhered to.

I shall next proceed to consider powers of a more extensive kind—as where the appointment is, by the terms of it, extendible to "issue," not merely to children.—A material observation relative to powers of this sort is, that the limits allowed by Law must not be exceeded.

It is an established principle, that a person taking under the execution of a power, takes under the deed by which the power was created. Buller Justice says, in *Robinson and Hardcastle*, 2d T.R. 251, "Every execution of a power must be coupled with the power itself, so that those who claim under the execution, must derive their title from the power;" and, P. 252, "I take it to be a clear rule of Law, on the execution of a power, that the execution must have a reference to the power itself, and that a person claiming under the execution, takes under the deed by which the power is created, and therefore that the uses limited by the power must be such as would have been good if limited by the original deed."—We may remember, that the rule of Law repeatedly alluded to in the former parts of this work is, that property, whether real or personal, shall not be so settled as to be tied up beyond lives in being and 21 years and a few months afterwards.—I then, however extensively a power may be given, the execution of it must be such as shall not tie up the property beyond lives in being and 21 years and a few months, *reference being had to the instrument creating the power*. The instrument creating, and that executing the power, are both to be considered as of the period of the former \*—and the execution must be such

\* Between Deeds and Wills there is this material distinction: A Deed takes effect immediately on the execution of it, a Will is ambulatory, and waits



such as to be confined to lives in being and 21 years, &c. *reckoning from that period.*

In the late case of Routledge and Dorril, 2d Vesey, jun. 357.—On the marriage of Richard Dorril and Eliz. Harcourt, money was settled in trust for the husband for life, remainder to the wife for life; after the decease of the survivor, to and among all and every the children, grandchildren, or issue of the marriage, in such shares and proportions, restrictions, limitations, and conditions, as the husband and wife should appoint; in default of such appointment, the survivor to have the same powers; in default of appointment by the survivor, amongst all, &c. who should be living at the decease of the survivor. The husband died, leaving his wife and four children, Richard, Elizabeth, Frances, and Mary, and having made no appointment.—The appointments made by the widow were as follows: In 1775, 300l. to Frances: In 1776, in consideration of the marriage of John Edwards and Elizabeth Dorril, she appoints, by the marriage settlement, 500l. to Elizabeth immediately on her marriage, to the intent that her husband may receive the same and the dividends to his own use:—She also appoints 1000l. immediately after her decease, in consideration of the marriage, to Elizabeth and her husband for life; after their decease to their children as they should appoint; in default of appointment, equally amongst them: In 1782, Elizabeth, the widow, by her Will, appoints 1000l. to Elizabeth Edwards for life, then to her children:—She further appoints 500l. to her daughter, then Frances Twiss, for life, after her decease to her children: One other 1000l. she appoints to Mary for life, remainder to her children by any husband she may have: 3700l. she appoints to her son Richard for life, with power of settlement on his wife and children, in case he should marry; in default of his settling, amongst the children equally; if none, to himself and his executors. These are the principal appointments as far as our present subject is concerned. In 1791, Elizabeth, the testatrix, died.

Several questions arose on these dispositions, and the Master of the Rolls, amongst others, made the following observation: "There is no doubt that, under this power, it was competent to the parties (sc. Richard and Elizabeth, on whose marriage the power was created) to have appointed among all the issue living at the death of either the husband or wife, whether the first, second, or third degree."

The first question that was to be considered was the appointments to Elizabeth, the daughter, she only having a life-estate with remainder to her children, were they not too remote. The appointments are to be considered as ingrafted in the original settlement creating the power—Then it stands thus—To the father and mother for life, remainder to an unborn daughter for life, remainder to her children—is not this on principle

waits for its effect till the testator's decease.—In inquiring therefore into the legality of the limitations we are speaking of, the reference in the case of a Deed should be had to the time of its execution, but the reference in the case of a Will should be had to the testator's death, Add. Notes H. Co. L. S. 463.

principle too remote?—In answer it is to be observed, the appointments to Elizabeth are of two distinct species. According to the rule laid down in Langstone and Blackmore, Alexander and Alexander, Robinson and Hardcastle, *supra*, the appointments to Elizabeth on her marriage are good—it is an absolute appointment to the daughter on her marriage, and a settlement by that daughter on her husband and family in such ways as seem to her useful and proper. The other appointment to Elizabeth, under the Will of 1782, stands very differently. To the limitations created in the Will she is no party, therefore the appointment to *her children* is void as too remote. If it had been to children *living at the grandmother's death*, it would have been good, as vesting after a life in being at the original settlement. The appointment to the children of Frances Twiss is void on the same principle. As to the appointment to Mary Dorril and her children, it is clear the appointment to the children is bad—The appointment to Richard Dorril for life is clearly good—The subsequent appointment to his children, &c. is clearly void. How the money ill appointed is to go, we shall consider hereafter—we have only considered the case as relative to remote appointments being good or not.

The sum of the case is this : The words of the power enabled a disposition to any issue of the marriage, however remote, but the principle of Law steps in and prohibits appointment to any not in being at the decease of the persons, parties to the original settlement—provided the appointees *must be* in being at the decease of the survivor, whether children, grandchildren, or great grandchildren, the appointment were good :—So, by the Master of the Rolls, Elizabeth Edwards had three children living at the death of Elizabeth Dorril—an appointment to these three would have been good ; but as the appointment by the Will did not particularise these, but equally alluded to all the children Elizabeth Edwards might at any time have, the principle of Law was exceeded.

The next point we will consider is, where the appointment must be amongst *all* the persons answering the description contained in the power, and where it may be confined to some of them. There is very little difficulty in making an explicit declaration which will not be liable to mistakes—such an expression as this can scarce be misconstrued—“ To any one or more, or all of the children of the said marriage, as to the survivor shall seem good,” or as the case may be. Another principle, immediately referring to this division of the subject, is, that those who are to be benefited shall not merely have an elusory or colourable share. We will also here consider what interests may be given (as for life or in tail) under powers of appointment.

In Tomlinson and Dighton, 1 Wms. 149—The husband devised lands to his wife for life, then to be at her disposal, provided it be to any of his children, if living ; if not, to any of his kindred his wife shall please. The children of the marriage are William and Hester. The wife appoints to Hester in tail, remainder to William in fee, and this appointment

appointment was held good, though William might never receive any benefit—and an appointment in tail, under a general power to appoint, was here held good.

Macey and Shurmer, 1 Atk. 389—Shurmer devised various lands to his wife, "being well assured she would, at her decease, dispose of the lands amongst all or such of his children as she, in her discretion, should think most proper, and as they, by their conduct, should deserve."—By Lord Chancellor, "under the word *such* of his children, the wife of the testator had a full power to devise the whole to the daughter." There was a son.—In Swift and Gregson, 1 T. R. 432. The father had a power to appoint a real estate "to the use and behoof of *such child and children*, and for such estate and estates, intents and purposes, as he should at any time, by writing, &c. limit, direct, and appoint."—An appointment to his son in tail, with remainder in fee to his other child, a daughter, was held good, as the words implied a power to give to one.—Ashurst Justice made a distinction betwixt real property which was usually meant to go exclusively to one branch, and personalty which was to provide for younger children; but Buller went merely on the words of the power.

We will next consider some cases in which the person possessing the power has been considered bound to give shares, not merely colourable, but substantive to all the objects of the power.

Maddefon and Andrews, 1st Vesey, 58—The husband devises to his wife 600l. to be by her disposed of to and amongst his three daughters in such proportion, and payable in such manner, as she shall think fit. The mother must appoint something not elusory to each daughter, but may appoint unequal sums. An appointment by a step-mother of an eleventh part to a step-daughter, was held elusory.—Alexander and Alexander, 2d Vesey, 640. The husband, by Will, gave his wife a power in these words: "And I give unto my said wife the absolute disposal of the said sum of 6000l. unto and among such children begotten between us, and in such proportions as she shall, by last will and testament, or by any other deed or deeds, writing or writings, to be executed by her in her life-time, attested by two or more credible witnesses, direct, limit, and appoint."—The Master of the Rolls said, "Considering the nature of the power, the wife was confined as to the objects to give it to, but left to her discretion as to apportioning it among them. In consequence of this she was obliged to give the whole among the children, every child must have some such share as she pleased, provided not elusory. If then she might apportion as she pleased, it is necessarily applied that she might apportion it out in such manner as she pleased, consequently she might give an interest for life in a particular share to one child, or limit the capital of the same share to another, or even go so far as to limit it to a third child on a contingency. Provided she doled out the whole in this various way among the children, only, one restriction she was under, that she could not have given any one child merely a reversionary interest, for



for it was intended as a provision, and therefore it would be deemed illusory\*.

In Pocklington and Bayne, 1 Bro. 450—the power was to appoint “to all and every the children in such parts, shares, and proportions, as the said S. Pocklington, &c. &c.” He appointed one acre to two children, the remainder to his second son, and the whole appointment was considered as illusory and void.

In Bristow and Warde, 2d Vesey, jun. 337—the power was, after the decease of the wife, “to apply the capital in such manner as John Bristow should appoint by any deed or writing.” He appointed life-estates to several of the children of the marriage who were the objects of the appointment, and they were held well appointed. Two of the appointments were thus: “To his daughter, Ann Margaret Hobart, 1000l. upon trust, to pay the profits and dividends to Henry Hobart, her husband, during his life—and after his decease, Ann Margaret was to have a life-estate, if she survived her husband. To his daughter, Frances Neave, a similar disposition of 500l. was made. It was argued that these contingent interests to the two married daughters were illusory and void. But the Lord Chancellor held it good, as being, in fact, such an interest in the wives as they would have taken if the disposition had been to them for life simply, without naming the husbands. If a life-interest were given to the wife independent of her husband’s controul, this also were good, 2d Vesey, 641.

We will next give a few instances of illusory appointments.

Cragrave and Percost, cited in Wall and Thurnborne, 1 Vern. 355—A man leaving two daughters, one by a second wife, gives the second wife power to appoint to them as she should think fit—she appoints 100l. to her step-daughter, 1000l. to her own—this was held illusory. So in Pawlet and Pawlet, 29,900l. out of 30,000l. appointed to one child, was held void.

But illusory appointments are in some cases allowed.

So Burrell and Burrell, Ambl. 660—One gave all his real and personal estate to his wife, to the end she might give his children such fortunes as she should think proper, or they best deserve. A son by a former wife, and four daughters by this, survived him. The wife appointed one guinea to the son, who was possessed of 400l. per annum—200l. each to two daughters, the remainder to the other two daughters—the daughters

\* In Routledge and Dorril—in default of appointment the property was to go to “all and every the children and grandchildren or issue of the marriage which should be alive at the death of the survivor, equally to be divided, share and share alike, the issue of any child or children dead shall not have greater share than the parent of such children, if living, would be intitled to.” A part is unappointed—none of it shall go to the children of a parent, being alive, who takes under the non-appointment.

daughters portions, independant of this, were about 500l. each. As the son was well provided for, Lord Camden held this disposition just—And Lord Chancellor says, 3d Bro. 254, in Boyle and Peterborough, “A gross inequality of division, if accounted for upon honourable motives, could not be held elufory—And by Lord Chancellor, 1st Vessey, 59, “Yet even where but a trifle has been given to one, if that child, by misbehaviour, deserved it, though it must be very gross indeed, the court will not vary it.”

We will next consider the doctrine of *Cy près*.—Where the disposition, as made by the person possessing the power, is in some point erroneous, the court of chancery will, in several cases, rectify the appointment, bringing it as near to the appointer's design as the law will permit.

As the doctrine of *Cy près* rather refers to the construing of Wills already made, than to the information of those who have the making of Wills in contemplation, I shall treat it very briefly. Where there is a power of appointing to any one, and this power has been exceeded by limiting estates to the children of that person in remainder after his life-estate, *but in such a course that they would take under the void appointment in nearly similar succession as they would have taken had the father been appointed an estate tail*. It has been decided that, to accomplish the testator's designs, the father shall have an estate tail.

So in Robinson and Hardcastle, 2d T. R. 241—James, the father, had a power to appoint to his children; he appoints to James, his son, for life, remainder to his first and other sons in tail, remainder to his daughters in tail, as tenants in common. The estates devised in tail to the children of James, the son, were beyond the power; but as giving James, the son, himself an estate tail, *was* within the power, and would transmit the property to his children in nearly the way pointed out for them to take in the void appointment, to fulfil the testator's intent as much as the law would allow, James, the son, was held by Buller Justice to take an estate tail. In Griffith and Harrison, 737, Lord Kenyon and Grose Justice sent a certificate to Chancery on the same principle.

But in Bristow and Warde, cited sup. the appointment was to be to the children. Henry, the son, was appointed for life, then to his children as he should appoint to them—for want of appointment they were to take distributively per Capita, i. e. share and share alike.—During the argument, the Lord Chancellor said, Why may not I construe it an estate tail for Henry as to the land? But he afterwards abandoned the idea and said, “No estate tail is given, nor any intention of that sort expressed; but the children would take by the appointment, or for want of it distributively per Capita.”

In Routledge and Dorril the Master of the Rolls denies this doctrine to extend to personal property.—“This is a personal estate first given

for life to the parent, an object of the power, then equally, or as he shall appoint, to the children who are not objects of the power. I am desired to execute that *Cy præs*. How can I do that? To effectuate such intention I can only give it to him absolutely; and then it would not go to them in a course of descent, but would go to his executors, and be liable to his debts."

Where there is an appointment void as to part, the appointment, as far as it is good, shall stand, and the void part be considered as null, and shall go as in default of appointment, *Tyrconnel and Ancaster*, 2d Vesey, 503. *Hervey and Hervey*, 1 Atk. 569.

The Lord Chancellor says, in *Bristow and Ward*, 2d Vesey, jun. 350, "I asked whether there was any case where the whole was distributed and set loose, as if no appointment had been made, because part of the appointment was bad? That proposition therefore is untenable, that in case of a flaw in the execution as to part, the whole must be void—all that is well appointed must stand."—"The consequence is, that the remainder must be divided as in default of appointment." It was decided both in this case and in *Wilson and Piggot*, 2d Vesey, jun. 351—that the void or unappointed residue should be divided, as the whole would have been if no appointment had been made, i. e. the persons to whom appointments had been made came in for their share of the unappointed part, so in *Routledge and Dorril*.

In 2d Vesey, 644, the Lord Chancellor says, "That where there is a complete execution of a power, and something *ex abundanti* added which is improper, there the execution shall be good, and the exception only void: but where not a complete execution of a power, where the boundaries betwixt the exception and the execution are not distinguishable, it will be bad." The case on which the Master of the Rolls made this observation was where, under a power to appoint to children, an appointment to "Francis, his wife, and children," was held good as to Francis—the exception to wife and child, who were not objects of the power, was deemed void.

Where there is a power to appoint amongst any persons, but if these persons should fail, to others, and no appointment is made, the first description of persons shall take equally, though nothing is said as to what shall be done in default of appointment, *Witts and Boddington*, 3d Bro. 95. So in *Madefon and Andrews*, the mother was devised 600 l. to be disposed of amongst her three daughters, a part unappointed was divided equally.

There is no necessity that all the appointments under a power should be made at once—such a determination were indeed entirely contradictory to the most useful effects of powers of appointment.

By Lord Kenyon, in *Doe and Milbourne*, 2d T. R. 725—"I agree with the argument at the bar, that a power may be executed at different



ferent times, if not fully executed at first, provided the party in whole execution do not transgress the limits of the power." So by Master of Rolls, in *Wilson and Piggot*—"I am glad I have been furnished with the determination in *Bristow and Ward*, which is an express authority that under such a power whether in the ultimate distribution each child must be included for some share or not, the party may execute his power by separate deeds, which do not give each child a share." "Maddefon and Andrews have completely decided that partial appointments may be made, and upon the cases determined it is universally admitted, that if a substantial share is given to each, it may be by different instruments at different times."

Where there is a power to appoint and to revoke the appointments from time to time, and to declare new uses, and an appointment and then a revocation is made, and new uses appointed, but no further power of revocation annexed to these new uses, the power of revocation is at an end; to continue it, it were necessary to have reserved a power so to do on the first revocation, *Hele and Bond*, Pr. Ch. 474, 2d Vesey, 211—ib. 77.

There are some cases in appointments of a very different nature from those already discussed—where there is a power to appoint absolutely, without any restriction as to the persons to whom the appointment is to be made—as in this case the person possessing the power may appoint to himself, his heirs, executors, &c. he is, as it were, complete owner.

One effect of this interest is the creation of estates which could not have been created in the deed giving this interest—*H. Co. L. 381. b. note to 379. b.* "If the objects of the powers be not restrained to any particular description of persons, but designed generally to be such persons as the party to whom the power is given shall appoint, there is no question but he may appoint life estates with remainders over in the same manner as he might do by a substantive original conveyance, notwithstanding the persons to whom the life estates are appointed were not in being at the time of the execution of the conveyance in which the power is contained." The principle on which this is formed is obvious enough. The man who has an unrestrained power of appointing has the estate, as it were, in his own hands, and any limitations he may create have their origin in him only—he finds the property free, he begins to bind it; consequently from the period of his appointment the restraints begin to run, and from that they are to be reckoned.

Another consequence of this power is, that whether appointed to creditors or no, they can come against the property as if it were absolutely his own, and previous to any appointment he may have made, though to sisters, *Bainton and Ward*, 2d Atkins, 172, or a daughter, 2d Vesey, 9, per Lord Chancellor, 2d Atk. 172. "If a man has power to dispose by appointment of a reversion in fee, and makes no disposition of it, yet it shall be assets to satisfy specialty creditors," *Pack and Bathurst*, 3d Atk. 269, *Troughton and Troughton*, ib. 656.

We will next consider in what cases defective executions of powers will be assisted, and in what not.

Tollet and Tollet, 2d Wms. 489—The husband had power to make a settlement on his wife *by deed under his hand and seal*. He had made no provision for his wife, and by *will*, under his hand and seal, he devised part of the lands within his power to his wife for life. Master of the Rolls—"This is a provision for a wife who had none before, and within the same reason as a child not before provided for—and as a court of equity would, had this been the case of a copyhold, have supplied the want of a surrender; so where there is a defective execution of a power, be it either for payment of debts, or provision for a wife or children unprovided for, I shall equally supply any defect of this nature. The difference is between the *non execution* and a defective execution of a power. This court will not help the non execution of a power." In Chapman and Gibson, 3d Bro. 231, Master of the Rolls says, "I think the execution of a power and the surrender of a copyhold go hand in hand." He had said in the last page, "The next class of cases is those where there is a natural obligation. Formerly some Judges have thought otherwise, but it is now settled the court will not inquire into the quantum of the provision. It is sufficient the testator is acting in discharge of moral or natural obligations; and it is very difficult for the court to enter into such inquiry, the father must be the best judge."

In Cotter and Laver, 2d Wms 613—A woman with power to appoint by writing in presence of three witnesses, appoints on her marriage in presence of two. As marriage was a valuable consideration, the defect was supplied in Chancery. 1 Atkins, 562, Lord Chancellor says, "It has been rightly observed at the bar, that a court of equity will supply a defective execution of a power as well in the case of younger children and a provision for a wife, as in favor of purchasers or creditors."

In Dormer and Thurland—A. had a power to appoint 200l. by his last Will *under hand and seal*. He appointed to several of his relations, but neglected the sealing—and the appointment being merely voluntary, and arising from no duty incumbent on it, the defect was held fatal. Ross and Ewer, 3d Atkins, 155, was similar to this case. Wagstaff and Wagstaff, 2d Wms. 258—A man having a trust estate and a power to appoint, appoints by a Will attested only by two witnesses—This is bad. In Mac Adam and Logan, 3d Bro. 310—The survivor of husband and wife had power to appoint 3000l. to such child or children, &c. as to the survivor should seem good—The appointment to be under hand and seal. The husband and wife, during their joint lives, appointed the money to four out of their five children, but without seal. In default of appointment the money was to go amongst the children of the marriage equally. The Lord Chancellor held the appointment bad, as being by both, not by the survivor. He also seemed to think the want of sealing fatal, as this case was merely amongst children who had all equal equities—it was not as between children and strangers.

As perhaps in cases relative to powers of appointment many will arise which cannot easily be classed in either of the descriptions mentioned, from their so much partaking of both as to be of a doubtful nature, I should strongly recommend a very minute attention to the requisites ordered by the power, and then all is safe.

We will conclude this subject by noticing several miscellaneous points.

Sympson and Hornsby, Pre. Ch. 452—The husband had given his personal estate to such uses as the wife, with consent of his trustees, should direct—an appointment without their consent is bad.

Beale and Beale, 1st Wms. 244—The power was to appoint 2000l. out of an estate to younger children living at the appointer's death—he left one daughter and his wife ensient with another daughter—these were all the children—Per Cur. the eldest daughter, though born first, when there is a son, has often been ruled to be a younger child—every one but the heir is a younger child—Here the estate goes to a remainder man, who is hæres factus “(thereby made heir)” —both children were deemed competent to take under the appointment.

Saville and Blacket, 1 Wms. 777—A. was tenant for 99 years, if he should so long live, with a power to charge the lands. He joins persons in remainder in suffering a recovery with new uses declared. He has extinguished his power of charging. “Having joined in a new settlement, he must not derogate from his own grant.”

For the sake of security it is wisest, on any appointment by Will, to refer explicitly to the power.

Molton and Hutchinson, 1 Atk. 558—J. C. gave 1000l. S. S. Stock to F. C. for life, and gave him a power to dispose of 400l. thereof.—F. C. made his Will, and after giving several legacies, he disposes of the rest and residue of his personal estate to his nearest relations.—This was no appointment of the 400l. So in Buckland and Barton, 2d H. Bl. 136—a power to appoint 100l. by Will was not executed by a devise of the residue of all personal estate—and Heath Justice said, the true rule, as to powers of appointment by Will, is that where one has a power of appointment by Will, but makes a Will without any reference to the power, the appointment shall have no effect, unless the Will would otherwise have no operation. So Caswell, E. P. 1 Atk. 559—where Lord Chancellor says, “tho’ a man may execute a power without reciting or taking the least notice of the power, yet it is necessary he should mention the estate which he disposes of, and must do such an act as shews he takes notice of the thing which he had a power to dispose of.”

A power cannot be delegated to another, 2d Atkins, 88. Ingram and Ingram. J. had a power to dispose of a reversionary interest in a copyhold



hold amongst the issue of the marriage, he by Will delegates this power to his wife. Per Lord Chancellor this power is not transmissible. So 2d Vesey, 643—A personal estate was given to such charitable uses as Dr. Berriman should appoint, he directed the money to be applied as another Dr. Berriman, his brother, should appoint. This the court would not allow as "*delegatus non potest delegare.*"

If an appointment is made to a person in a Will, and the person dies before the testator, the appointment is lapsed—Oke and Heath, 1st Vesey, 135. Scroggs and Scroggs, 272, an appointment made under misrepresentation was set aside.

If there is a void appointment and a subsequent appointment, not necessarily in itself void, depending on the void appointment, the subsequent one must fall, together with the first—As where an appointment was to his son J. for life, remainder to his first and other sons in tail, remainder to his daughter Elizabeth in fee. The estates tail to the sons of J. being void, the remainder in fee is void also, Robinson and Hardcastle, 2d T. T. 241. This doctrine is also held by Master of Rolls, 2d Vesey, jun.—and he holds it to be the same whether persons pointed out for the void interest ever come into being or no—the limitation over is void at any rate.

APPEN.

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## A P P E N D I X II.

### P R E C E D E N T S.

*(The figures refer to the pages in the body of the work particularly connected with each devise.)*

#### DESCRIPTION OF TESTATOR.—SEE P. 16.

**I,** JAMES ROBERTS, of Croyden, in the County of Surry, Gent. do make this my last Will and Testament, in form and manner following.

I, James Traverse, now of Green Hall, in the County of Lincoln, late of Dover-Street, in the County of Middlesex, Gentleman.

I, Rebecca Rawlins, Spinster, late of Norfolk-Street, Strand, in the County of Middlesex, now of Chatham-Place, Black-Friars, in the same County.

I, Thomas Royds, of the City of York, Coach-Painter.

#### CHARGING ESTATES WITH DEBTS AND LEGACIES—P. 63.

Imprimis—I do will, order, and direct, that all my just debts, funeral expences, and the charge of proving this will, be by my executors hereinafter named, paid and discharged out of my personal estates—P. 68.

With the payment of my just debts I charge my real estates, whatsoever and wheresoever, in aid of my personal—70.

Whereas it is my intention that my personal estates should go undiminished in the course hereinafter pointed out in this my Will, I do make all my real estates liable, in the first instance, to all my debts—70.

And whereas it is my intention that the bequests and devises hereinafter contained should all, as far as may be, take effect, to that intent I devise that all my debts, as well on simple contract as otherwise, shall be paid in the following manner, that is, one-third of such my debts shall fall as a charge on my personal property, and the remaining two-thirds shall be charged on my real property, whether particularly devised or not, in such manner that all persons succeeding to any part of my said real property, whether as heir at law, or devisee under this my Will, shall contribute in equal proportion.

And

And whereas my personal property may be found insufficient to discharge all my just debts, I do hereby devise all my estate called Headlands, to A. B. and C. D. Esqrs. and their heirs, in trust nevertheless and for the intents and purposes hereinafter mentioned, that is to say, that they and the survivor of them and his heirs shall, by sale, mortgage, lease, or out of the rents and profits thereof, or by what other method or methods to them or the survivor of them and his heirs shall seem good, raise sufficient sum and sums of money to discharge all such of my debts as my personal estate shall be unable to pay—72.

And if my personal estate, after payment of my just debts, should be insufficient to satisfy the legacies herein devised, in such case it is my will that such part of my legacies as shall remain unpaid shall be charged on my real estates, as well those which are specially devised as those which are not, all such my estates to contribute equally according to their several values—69.

Subject to my debts and legacies, in aid of my personal estate, I devise all that my messuage and tenement, &c.

#### REFERENCE TO PRIOR WRITINGS—P. 3.

Whereas in a certain book bound with blue Morocco leather and clasped with silver, which is folded up in paper, and sealed at both ends with my family seal, which book, for better security, I have deposited — there is expressed a series of limitations of my estate at Blackacre. Now it is my will, and I hereby devise that my said estate at Blackacre shall go according to the said limitations contained in the said book by me here referred to; and, for the greater certainty relative to the aforesaid book, I have written it all with my own hand, and have signed every leaf of it, and further have at the bottom of each page noted down all the rasures and interlineations which I have at any time made.

#### WILL OF REALTY BY A MARRIED WOMAN—P. 6.

Let the testatrix refer to the origin of her power of devising, whether by conveyance of the estate to trustees, covenant by the husband prior to marriage, or fine after marriage.—If the deeds are easily to be come at, they may be accurately recited, as, "Whereas by a certain deed bearing date — and prior to my marriage with my now husband, John Spinks, the aforesaid John Spinks did covenant that, &c. notwithstanding coverture, &c."—But if the wife cannot readily obtain the deeds containing the origin of her power, any explicit declaration of her design will suffice—As, "I Elizabeth Jones, wife of, &c. having reserved to me, by my marriage settlement, a power of disposing of my real estates, by any Will executed to pass real estates, at any time, notwithstanding my coverture, do hereby, in pursuance and exercise of such power and authority, and by force and virtue of all and every the power and powers, authority and authorities, in me being or enabling me



me thereto, make my last Will and Testament in manner following.—  
If the wife is authorised to devise personal property, the same reference must be made; and if her power arises from the mere circumstance of her husband's assent to the individual Will, she may allude thereto in any such way as this.

I, Jane Thompson, of the City of Litchfield, being empowered and authorised by my husband to devise certain property, (describe it) notwithstanding my coverture, in token of which his assent he has hereunto set his hand, do hereby devise, &c.—P. 8

#### WILL OF COPYHOLDS OF MARRIED WOMEN—P. 6.

Whereas my copyhold estate at R. has, according to the custom of the manor in cases of femes coverts, been surrendered to such uses as I should by Will appoint, I hereby direct and appoint that the same shall go to A. for life, &c.

#### WILL OF PERSONALTY OF A MARRIED WOMAN WITHOUT HER HUSBAND'S CONSENT—P. 8.

I, Mary Jones, having saved divers sums of money out of the annual allowance to which I am intitled by my marriage settlement, do hereby make disposition thereof as by law allowed, notwithstanding my coverture.

And whereas I am executrix of Jones Roberts, I do hereby devise all the monies to which I am intitled as such, and also all the trust arising to me under the Will of the said Jones Roberts, to R. H. his executors and assigns—8.

#### DEVISE OF COPYHOLDS—P. 11.

Whereas I am possessed of a certain copyhold farm situate at Hampstead, in the County of Middlesex, and now or late in the occupation of George Green, which said tenement has been surrendered to the use of my Will, I devise it to A. B. &c.

Whereas I, Benjamin Thompson, am possessed of a copyhold house situate at Croyden, in Surry, and now or late inhabited by A. B. which said copyhold tenement I have not surrendered to the use of my Will, whereby the same will descend to my heir at law contrary to my wishes, now I do hereby will, order, and direct, that my son J. my heir at law, or his heirs, or such person as at the time of my decease shall happen to be my heir, or the heirs of such person, when and as soon as he, she, or they shall attain the age of 21 years, shall and do, upon request and charges in the law of the persons interested and requesting the same, pass sufficient surrenders, and do all other acts in law required and necessary for establishing and confirming the several estates herein limited to them respectively, and the uses of such surrenders I

M

do

do hereby declare to be as follows—P. 12. This is taken nearly word for word from Wardel and Wardel, 3 Bro. 116. in which case it is to be remembered the heir at law was devised an estate tail in other property.

#### DEVISES AMONGST RELATIONS—P. 18.

I shall content myself with giving the form of the devise in Bennet and Honeywood—And further I give to my "said executors 20,000l. upon trust, to distribute and dispose of the whole of the said sum, and the interest and improvement to be made thereof, to and amongst such of my relations by consanguinity, and not by marriage, who shall not appear to my said executors to be worth each person more than 2000l. and who, within two years next after my decease, shall apply, or being minors or otherwise incapable of applying in their own persons, shall cause application to be made, or have application made, on their respective behalfs, to my said executors, for the benefit, or to have a share of, or to participate in, that legacy or donation, such distribution to be made amongst such of my relations aforesaid, at such times and in such manner and proportions or disproportions as my executors in their discretions judge to be most proper."

#### DEVISES TO CHILDREN—P. 17.

I give to each of the children of Jonas Raper, now living, 20l. and if it should happen that any of these children should die before me, I give the share or shares of any child or children so dying to be equally divided amongst such as shall survive me, provided that if any child or children so dying before me leave issue which shall be alive at my death, the share of such child or children so leaving issue shall go to such issue as it would have done in case of the parent of such issue having come into possession of his or her legacy.

I give to every child of A. B. which shall be living at my death, whether born after the making of this my Will or before, the sum of 20l. each—and if, at the time of my death, any child or children of B. shall have died leaving issue living at my death, I devise what would have been the share of such child or children had they survived me, to the issue of such child or children, such issue to take in such shares and proportions as if the legacy of their respective parents had come into possession and been distributable according to the Statute of Distributions.

I give to each of the children which A. B. has, or shall at any future time have, 20l.

#### DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY DEVISED REAL—P. 20.

I give and devise all that my messuage or tenement, land and hereditaments, with the appurtenances, situate, lying, and being in the parish of Graystock, in the county of Nottingham, and now in the tenure

nure or occupation of Richard Jones, yeoman.—All my estate at R.  
now or late in the occupation of R. H. I give to B.—See P. 21.

PUBLICATION AND ATTESTATION—P. 2—23.

In witness whereof I the said John Doe have hereunto set my hand  
and seal this 1st Day of April, in the year of our Lord 1796.

Signed, sealed, published, and declared by  
the above-mentioned John Doe, as and for his  
last Will and Testament, in presence of us  
who at his request, *and in his presence*, have  
subscribed our names as witnesses thereto.

JOHN DOE. (Seal)

JOHN DEN,  
RICHARD FEN,  
RICHARD ROE.

REPUBLICATION—P. 26.

Let the testator take his Will in his hand, and declare it to be his  
last Will in presence of three witnesses, and note the declaration thus :  
Whereas I John Doe, the testator named in this Will, have republished  
the same, with an intent thereby to make void all other Will and Wills  
at any time heretofore by me made, and to confirm and establish this  
which I have declared to be my last Will in presence of John Jones,  
Richard Bones, and Samuel Stones, whom I have desired to subscribe  
their names as witnesses hereto, and in witness whereof I the said John  
Doe have hereunto subscribed my name this 2d day of April, in the  
year of our Lord 1796.

JOHN DOE.

Signed by the said John Doe, in presence of  
us who at his request and in his presence have  
subscribed our names as witnesses to the above  
republishing.

JOHN JONES,  
RICHARD BONES,  
SAMUEL STONES.

ATTESTATION IN CASE OF PERSONALTY—P. 27.

As the testator may have property which he is not authorised to ap-  
point, except under seal and in presence of a certain number of persons,  
he may follow the publication in case of real property, *supra*—but in  
general the name of the testator, signed in presence of two witnesses,  
and an attestation by them of such signing, will amply suffice. In wit-  
ness whereof this (day, month, year) I have hereunto set my hand,

JOHN DOE.

Signed by the above-named testator in our presence,

RICHARD ROE,  
JOHN DEN.



## CODICIL—P. 28.

Whereas I, John Doe, of Fleet-street, in the City of London, money-scrivener, have duly executed my last Will, bearing date the 1st of April, 1796, and thereby given my freehold estate at Blackacre to A. and his heirs, now I do hereby revoke the said devise of Blackacre, and do hereby devise the same to Richard Jones and his heirs—I also revoke the legacy of 50l. given to my niece, Rebecca Racket; and whereas in my Will aforesaid I have nominated and appointed A. B. and C. D. to be my executors, I do hereby revoke and annul such appointment, and I do hereby constitute and appoint Jane Thompson my sole executrix of my last Will and of this Codicil, and I do ordain this writing to be a Codicil to my said Will, and that the same shall be annexed to and taken as part thereof, and do confirm my Will in every particular thereof that is not hereby altered or revoked.—In witness whereof I have to this Codicil set my hand and seal this 3d day of April, in the year of our Lord 1796.

Signed, sealed, declared, and published by the said John Doe as and for a Codicil to be annexed to his last Will, and to be taken as part thereof, in our presence, who, in the presence of the testator, have hereunto set our names as witnesses thereof,

JOHN DOE. (Seal)

RICHARD WINN,  
JOHN DAY,  
ROBERT LITTLE.

## INTEREST DEVISED IN REALTY—FOR LIFE—IN TAIL—P. 29.

My freehold tenement at ——— I give to William Bolt for and during the term of his natural life.

My farm called Blackacre, now in the occupation of Richard Jones, containing 80 acres, be the same more or less, I give to Ralph Watson and the heirs of his body.

To Ralph Watson and the heirs male of his body.

To Ralph Watson and the heirs female of his body.

To Ralph Watson and the heirs of his body by Ann his present wife.

As to devises to children after a life estate given to the parent, see p. 30. and the formula, 31.

3d—Repeat the formula, No. 1. to "defeated, barred, or destroyed"—then go on—and immediately from and after the decease of the said A. I give and devise the aforesaid estates to and amongst all the daughters of the said A. equally, as tenants in common, and to the heirs of their bodies.

This

This form, No. 3. makes no reference to any sons of A.—if they are meant to take first, then the daughters, the form, No. 1. must be continued by adding—"and for default of such issue, then I give and devise all my said estates, &c." as here.

It is to be observed, that in No. 1. nothing is said as to the profits during the period the trustees may hold the estate on any forfeiture. The testator may devise them to be paid to the person committing the forfeiture, to be enjoyed by the trustees themselves, or to accumulate till the first person in remainder can take, and to go to such person.

4th and 5th—If the daughters are to take on failure of the sons issue, continue formula 1st, "and in default of such issue, then I give the estates aforesaid to his first and other daughters, &c." as the formula is with regard to sons; only, if formula 4th is meant, "male" must be left out after "heirs"—if the 5th, it must be retained.

But if the daughters are to take whether there are sons or no, then formula 1st, as it now stands, is not to be used at all, but is to be altered by substituting "first and other daughters" for first and other sons, and retaining "heirs male," or "heirs of the bodies" simply, as the design may be.

6th—And immediately from and after the decease of the said A. I give the premises aforesaid to such of his sons as shall then be second in seniority, and to his eldest daughter equally, as tenants in common, and the heirs of the bodies of such second son and eldest daughter—To all his sons and daughters, as tenants in common, and the heirs of their bodies—To all his sons and the heirs of their bodies, &c. as the testator pleases.

7th—And immediately from and after the decease of the said A. I give the estate aforesaid to such person or persons as may answer the description of heir of the said A. if more than one, as tenants in common, and the heirs of such person or persons—To the eldest son of the said A. and his heirs—To such son of A. as at his death shall be his eldest living son, and his heirs—provided that if any son deceased was older than such eldest living son, and has left issue living at the decease of A. the estate aforesaid shall go to the heir of the body of the eldest son leaving issue living at the death of A. and the heirs of such heir of the body.

#### EXECUTORY DEVISES—P. 35.

My freehold tenement at Whiteacre I devise to my daughter Ann on her marriage, and to her heirs.

My freehold house at B. now in the occupation of R. I give to my son John and his heirs; but in case he die before 21, and without issue  
of

of his body lawfully begotten, then and in such case I devise the same to my son Edward and his heirs.

My lands and tenements situate, lying, and being in the parish of R. I give to the first son of A. B. which shall attain the age of 21, and his heirs, or, and the heirs of his body.

My lands, &c. I devise to J. B. on his attaining the age of 21, or having issue of his body lawfully begotten, whichever shall first happen, and the heirs of his body; and on the decease of the said J. B. without issue, whether he shall have come into possession of the said estate or not, I give the same to Martha Jenkins and her heirs.

#### DEVISE OF PERSONALTY—SPECIFIC OR GENERAL—P. 46.

The furniture of my house at Croyden I give to B. but it is not my meaning by this bequest that plate, linen, china, glass, or books, should pass.

My plate, household linen, books, china, and glass, I give to R.

All my goods and chattels commonly made use of at my house in R. also such horses, cows, oxen, carriages, and farming utensils as shall be there at the time of my death, I give to B. but not designing to include in this bequest any money, notes, or securities for money, that may be in my house at R.

My rings, jewels, and other personal ornaments and cloaths, I give to N.

I do not pretend that the above forms are, nor am I aware of any other that will be, altogether clear of doubt; they may, however, serve to assist the testator in considering what expressions his particular case demands.

I give to B. 100 l.

I give to C. 200 l. and if it should happen that C. dies before me, in such case I give it to his executors and administrators, to the intent that it shall be by them disposed of in the first place towards paying the debts and legacies of the said C. if need be; if not, that they shall apply and dispose of it to such uses, purposes, and to such persons, as the residue of his personal property has or shall be applied or disposed of to—58.

#### DEVISES WITH RESTRAINTS ON MARRIAGE—P. 51.

I give my niece, Jane Metcalf, 200 l. but with this condition annexed, that she shall not marry under the age of 21, without the consent of A.



A. and B. and on her marriage without the consent of A. and B. before she attains the age of 21, I give her legacy of 200l. to Tom o'Stiles.

And my said estate of Sevenoaks I charge with 2000l. to be paid to my niece, Jane Aubrey, on her attaining the age of 21, provided she shall not before that period have married without the consent of her mother; and if, prior to the age of 21, she shall have married without the consent of her mother, then and in such case it is my will that the above charge of 2000l. on my said estate shall become null and void.

DEVISE OF PERSONALTY IN REMAINDER—P. 52.

My household goods, &c. &c. at A. I give to B. for life, and at his decease I give the same to and amongst his children, share and share alike.

I give my 1000l. three per cent. consols to B. for life; and if he die leaving issue living at his death, I give it to such issue, in such shares and proportions as they would have taken under the statute of distributions in case they had succeeded to the same on the death of B. without a Will; but if B. leave no issue living at his death, then I give the said 1000l. to C.

I give 20l. each to all and every the children, grandchildren, or great grandchildren, of my son John, which shall be living at his death.

LEGACIES IN SATISFACTION OF A DEBT—P. 55.

I give my friend, Thomas Jones, 500l. not with intent to satisfy a claim he has on me to that or any other amount, but freely as a legacy.

Whereas by marriage articles I am bound to give my daughter Ann 10,000l. I do hereby, in addition to what she is entitled to under such articles, give and bequeath to her one other sum of 10,000l.

DEVISE OF REALTY LAPSED—P. 56.

Whereas I have in my Will (of such a date) given my freehold estate to B. and the heirs of his body, and in default of such issue to C. and the heirs of his body, and whereas B. the former devisee of this my estate, is dead, leaving issue of his body, by which his death the devise to him and his issue is become a lapsed devise, now I do hereby re-establish the same, and give my said estate to the heirs of the body of the said B. and in default of heirs of the body of B. to C. and the heirs of his body.

REVOCATION OF A DEVISE—P. 58.

If the revocation of a Devise or of a Will be made by another Will, such Will must be signed in the usual way. If it be made by any instrument not a Will, it must be signed by the testator so revoking in presence

presence of three witnesses, who are to attest such signing, but their attestation is not necessary to be made in the testator's presence.

Whereas I, John Doe, of Richmond, in the County of Surry, did, by my last Will, bearing date ——— (or if testator does not know the date) did, by a certain Will heretofore made, devise to Thomas Abney and his heirs my estate at Blackacre, now I do hereby totally revoke, make null and void, the same devise.—In witness whereof I do hereunto set my hand this day, month, year,

JOHN DOE.

Signed by the said John Doe, in the presence of us who, at his request, have hereunto set our names as witnesses to the above revocation,

RICHARD ROE,  
JOHN DEN,  
RICHARD FEN.

If John Doe had gone on to devise Blackacre to some one else, in such case the witnesses to what would *then* be a Will or Codicil, must sign their attestation in the presence of John Doe—vide supra—and p. 2. and 58. note.

If the testator is minded to revoke a Will in toto, his best way is to burn it, also any duplicate of it—but this is sometimes impracticable, as it may be in custody at a distance, or the testator from his own residence, &c.

Whereas I, John Doe, am dissatisfied with the dispositions of my property which I have heretofore made by Will, I do hereby revoke, annul, and make void, all Wills and Testaments by me at any time made. Signed and attested as the last form.

A revocation of a Will, or particular bequest of personalty, does not require the same attestation—but it must be in writing, except the following forms are used—59.

Whereas John Doe was desirous to revoke certain bequests made by him in his Will, but being infirm in health, was not able to do the same in writing, he hath by word of mouth revoked all legacies left by him to A. B. also he hath declared that the legacy of 20l. given to D. shall not stand good.—This his revocation of these his bequests is here put into writing at his request.

The above revocation of the legacies to A. B. and D. was committed to writing, in the words above, in the life-time of the said John Doe, and read to and allowed and approved of by him in our presence,

RICHARD ROE,  
JOHN DEN,  
RICHARD FEN.

Whereas

Whereas since the making of my Will, wherein is devised 500l. to my niece, Sarah Jones, I have given her divers sums of money, amounting to 500l. at least, whereby it might be in doubt whether the said legacy of 500l. was not become null and of no effect—my design is, that notwithstanding any sum or sums of money I may have given her, such legacy of 500l. shall stand good.

Whereas in my Will I have given A. B. 100l. I do hereby in this my Codicil to be annexed to the same, give him one other sum of 100l.

Whereas in the former part of this my Will I have given A. B. 100l. now, on further consideration, and finding my circumstances better than I thought them, I give him an additional sum of 100l.—See P. 62.

It is common to add to the end of a Will a general clause of revocation to the following effect: "And I do hereby revoke and make void every other Will and Wills at any time heretofore by me made, and do declare this to be my last Will and Testament.—In witness whereof, &c." as before.

#### RESIDUE—P. 62.

All the rest of my personal estate I give to William Morgan, whom I do nominate and appoint sole executor of this my last Will.

All the rest of my personal estate I give to A. and B. to be divided equally between them; but in case of the death of either before me, I give the whole to the survivor—And I do nominate and appoint Richard Jones, to whom I have herein above given 100l. to be sole executor of this my last Will.

The surplus of my personal estate, after debts and legacies paid, I order and devise to be distributed according to the statute of distributions, meaning that my wife shall take the accustomed part thereof—See P. 18.

The residue of my personal estate I give to R. whom I here nominate and appoint sole executor, &c.—and further it is my Will, that altho' the said R. shall not choose to take on him the office of executor, that he shall notwithstanding and nevertheless be entitled to the residue here devised him.

#### TRUSTS—P. 64.

I give to A. 100l. in trust nevertheless, and to the intent that he should apply the interest arising therefrom towards the maintenance of B. and also that he should from time to time apply such part of the principal thereof as may to him seem necessary to any purposes useful to the said B. as towards putting him out apprentice, keeping him at school, maintaining him in sickness, and the like—and on this further trust that he shall, on the said B.'s attaining the age of 21, pay to him

N

the



the principal, or such parts of it as have not been disposed of in the service of the said B. And if it should happen that the said A. dies before me, I devise the said sum of 100 l. to the father, or in case of the father's death, to the guardian of B. on the trusts herein before mentioned.

I give A. 500 l. on trust to pay the interest arising therefrom to Jane Pall for her sole and separate use, free from the controul of her present or any future husband, her receipt for the same to be a sufficient discharge to the said A.—and on this further trust to pay the principal to such person or persons, and for such uses, as the said Jane shall by Will, or any writing in nature of a Will, appoint, my meaning being that the said Jane shall not have any power to spend the principal, but only the interest arising from the said 500 l. and if she shall not by Will, or writing in nature of a Will, appoint the whole or any part of the said 500 l. then my design is, that any unappointed parts, or the unappointed whole, shall go to, and be distributed amongst, the next akin of the said Jane according to the statute, but excluding her present or any future husband from all benefit from the said sum of 500 l.

I give my freehold estate at R. to John Bell and his heirs, upon the trusts nevertheless hereinafter mentioned ; that is to say, that he shall, out of the rents and profits of my said estate, pay the yearly sum of 40 l. to Richard Ward, for and during the term of his natural life, by two half-yearly payments, the first to commence and become due at the end of one year from my death, the other on the expiration of half a year from that time—and on this further trust, to apply the residue of the rents and profits towards the maintenance and education of J. R. and, in trust as to such surplus as shall remain after payment of the annuity and maintenance of the said J. R. to place it out on government or other security, to accumulate until the said J. R. shall attain the age of 21 years, and at that time in trust to pay the produce thereof to him—and if at any time or times, prior to the said J. R.'s attaining the age of 21 years, it shall be needful, towards his advancement in life, to apply for his use any sum or sums which the rents and profits of the current year, after payment of the aforesaid annuity, shall not equal, my will is, that my aforesaid trustee shall apply such sum or sums out of the then savings as may be necessary for such purposes. If the above-named J. R. shall happen to die before he attains the age of 21, then and in such case it is my will that my said trustee shall distribute the aforesaid surplus and the produce thereof, or as much thereof as may remain unapplied, towards the advancement of the said J. R. amongst his next akin, unless he shall have made a testamentary disposition of the same at years of discretion, and then and in such case my said trustee shall pay it to such person or persons as he shall have devised it to.

The devise then might go on—At Richard Ward's death the 40 l. per annum to be applied to the same uses as the other rents and profits—On J. R.'s leaving issue on dying under 21, they to have the rents, &c. The legal estate to be given to himself and his heirs, on his attaining 21, subject to the annuity—To his issue, if he die under 21, on the death of the annuitant, &c. &c.

RECOM-

## RECOMMENDATIONS—P. 66.

If the testator means merely to give a power of appointment, and no discretionary right of retaining or not retaining the property to the devisee's self, his heirs, or executors, let him clearly create a power, and nothing more—for which see *infra*.—I am for the present supposing a discretion to give or not to give to the objects pointed out in the recommendation.

My estate in Blackacre I devise to A. and his heirs, meaning by this my devise to him to give him an interest in fee simple, totally disburthened of all trust whatever, notwithstanding the recommendations hereinafter contained, which are as follows ——— But all these matters I trust solely and entirely to his discretion, which I will shall be uncontrouled by any court of law or equity whatever—meaning to convey him hereby an uncontrouled and unincumbered fee simple.

## GUARDIANS.

And I appoint my dear wife guardian to all my children for such time as she shall continue my widow ; and in case of her marriage, I then appoint A. their guardian from that time to their severally attaining the age of 21.

I nominate and appoint B. guardian of my son Charles until he attain the age of 21.

Whether by Will or Deed, two witnesses are necessary.

## POWERS OF APPOINTMENT—P. 75.

Also I give my wife the further sum of 600*l.* which it is my will that she shall dispose of amongst all and every the children of our marriage, either by Will in writing, attested by two witnesses, or by any Deed or Deeds in her life-time, under her hand and seal, in presence of two witnesses at the least, and in such shares and proportions as to my said wife shall seem good. And if it should happen that either at the time of my death or afterwards, during the life of my wife, any of our said children shall be dead, leaving issue, I do hereby authorise my said wife to appoint unto one or more of the said issue, any portion of the said 600*l.* which my wife shall think proper ; but I do leave it entirely at the option of my wife to appoint, or not to appoint, any sum to the issue of such child or children so dying, and in default of appointment by my said wife of the whole or part of such sum of 600*l.* I give the same, on the death of my wife, equally amongst all our children, share and share alike, the issue of any child or children deceased at the time of the death of my wife to be entitled to the share of such child or children, in such manner and proportions as they would take under the statute of distributions in case of the death of such child or children without making a Will.

I, Elizabeth Jackson, having, under the Will of my late husband, John Jackson, a power of appointing 600l. amongst our children, &c. do give, in virtue and by force of the said power, 100l. to Ann Jackson, 50l. each to Jane and Elizabeth Harcourt, issue of our daughter, Elizabeth Harcourt, deceased, &c. &c.

I give my nephew, George Roberts, the sum of 2000l. willing that he shall dispose of the same either by his last Will and Testament, signed by him in presence of two witnesses, or by any Deed or Deeds in his life-time, under his hand and seal, in presence of two witnesses, to and amongst such of his issue lawfully begotten as to him shall seem good, it being my will that the whole 2000l. shall go to his descendants, but that he shall at his discretion give it to one or more of them, or to all which may be living at his death—76—and in default of appointment by the said G. Roberts, or as to any unappointed or illappointed residue, I give the aforesaid 600l. or the unappointed or illappointed part thereof, on the death of G. R. equally amongst his issue; that is to say, with this restriction, that the issue of any of his children which may be dead shall take no more amongst them than the shares of such children would have amounted to, the issue of each child to take in such way as if such child had come into possession of his or her share, and died intestate, whereby the same would be distributable, nor shall the issue of any child living at the decease of the said G. R. take any thing.

Whereas I, G. R. am empowered, under the Will of my late uncle, A. to dispose of the sum of 2000l. amongst one or more of my issue as shall to me seem good; in virtue and by force of such power, I do give to my daughter Tabitha, 200l. I give to my son George, 500l. the residue and remainder of the said sum of 2000l. I give to be equally divided, share and share alike, amongst all the children of my said daughter Tabitha and my said son George, which shall be living at my death—77.

I give my daughter Ann the sum of 1500l. which it is my will she shall dispose of, &c. to one or more, or all her children, as to her shall seem good.

I devise to A. B. and his heirs, my freehold estate at Blackacre, which it is my will that he shall dispose of by Will, &c. or Deed, &c. to any one or more of his children or issue, as to him shall seem good.

If there is a power of appointing to children, a devise of this sort is good—80: "I give to my daughter Ann 1000l. in trust to pay the profits and dividends to Henry Hobart, her husband, during his life, and after his decease my said daughter Ann, if she survive him, shall have the principal itself."

I shall subjoin a short Will, in which several of the points relative to powers are noticed.

FORM



## FORM OF A WILL.

**I** A. B. of ——— in the County of ——— do make this my last Will—I give to M. my dear wife, 500l. and also my household furniture, (using that word in its most ample signification) my books, and philosophical instruments—The residue of my personal property I give to C. D. and E. F. whom I hereby make executors to this my last Will, in trust to pay the annual interest and produce thereof to my aforesaid wife, to her sole and separate use during her life; also on this further trust, to apply such parts of my said personal fortune as my aforesaid wife shall, by writing under her hand during her widowhood, appoint to the use of any one or more of my children by my said wife, or their issue, whether for maintenance, education, apprentice fee, marriage portion, or any other occasion, such as shall seem good to my said wife. But in case of the second marriage of my said wife, I, from that time, devolve this power of appointing such sum or sums of money as from time to time the necessities of my children or their issue shall require, on C. D. and E. F. my executors aforesaid, hereby authorising them, by writing under their joint hands, to apply whatever money may from time to time seem to them good, to the above or other such purposes. My will further is, that after the death of my said wife (provided she never marry again) my said trustees shall, at such periods, and in such ways, and under such limitations as my wife shall appoint, pay to one, or all, or some of my children, or the issue of my children, such sum or sums as my wife, by writing under her hand and seal, or by will signed in the presence of two witnesses, shall appoint; and in default of such appointment, or as to any residue which any appointment shall not reach, I give what may remain of my personal estate to and amongst all my children and their issue which shall be alive at the death of my said wife equally, (i. e. regard being had to sums already received by them, which case is especially provided for below) meaning that the issue of children then alive shall take nothing—and the children then alive, together with the issue of those dead, to take equally *per stirpes*, i. e. the whole number of descendants of any child deceased to stand in his or her place, and to take his or her share equally amongst them. And as it is my intention that this unappointed part of my fortune shall be divided in the way most beneficial to my family, I devise that all sums which may have been appointed out of the principal of my property to any child under this Will, shall be considered at the time of a distribution of the unappointed residue, so that no child, or child's child, &c. shall take more in addition to what has been received, than what, with the sum so received, will be equal to the sum received and to be received by any other of my issue similarly situated to a child so taking—And any child possessing the whole or part of an estate limited to my issue in remainder under my father's Will, shall not receive, under a distribution of the unappointed part, more in addition to such property than he would have received in addition to it had it come to such child under the powers of this Will. But in case of the second marriage of my wife, I from that time transfer  
all

all power of appointing the disposition of my effects as above after the death of my said wife, from her to my executors and trustees, C. D. and E. F. aforesaid, the residue, if any, on default of their appointment, to be shared out as in case of default of appointment by my said wife. In case of the death of either of the above trustees and executors, either before or after my own, I empower the survivor, by Deed under his hand and seal, to appoint a co-trustee, to whom I give all the powers in this Will granted to the original trustees and executors, and whenever at any time there shall be only one trustee in being, I empower him to conjoin with him any other person, by Deed under his hand and seal, such other person to enjoy, to their full extent, all the powers herein granted to the original trustees and executors. And if my wife shall happen to die in my life-time, I give to my said trustees, or the surviving one, in case of the death of the other, all the powers of appointment given to my wife, together with the power of choosing a co-trustee on every event of there being but one as before—they both joining in any instrument in writing by which an appointment is made—provided that, in such case, a final appointment of the principal and accumulation of interest, if such there be, shall be made within one month of my youngest child attaining the age of 21; and in default of appointment in that period, my will is, that the whole be then distributed in the proportion and under the divisions contained above, in case of the death of my wife without making an appointment.

I give the guardianship of all my children to my wife during the time she shall be my widow, and on her marriage I transfer it to my trustees for the time being, till the period at which they shall severally attain the age of 21.

To this my last Will I set my hand and seal this — day of —  
in the year of our Lord —

Signed, sealed, published, and declared as  
and for the last Will of the above-named  
A. B. in our presence.

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*Ex P. O.*